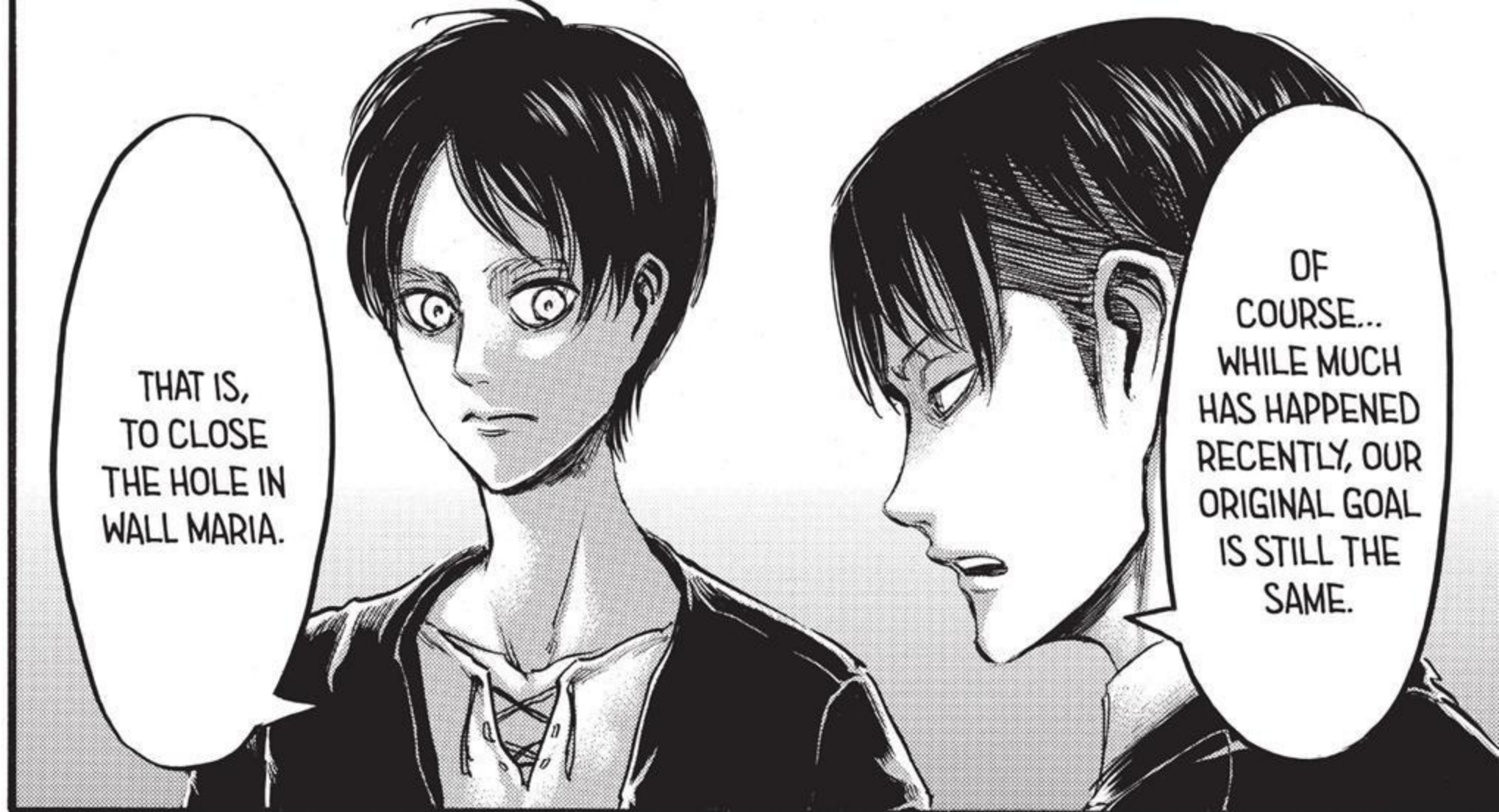






THAT IS,
TO CLOSE
THE HOLE IN
WALL MARIA.

OF
COURSE...
WHILE MUCH
HAS HAPPENED
RECENTLY, OUR
ORIGINAL GOAL
IS STILL THE
SAME.



OR A
HANDFUL
OF TITANS
POPPING
UP INSIDE
THE
WALLS.

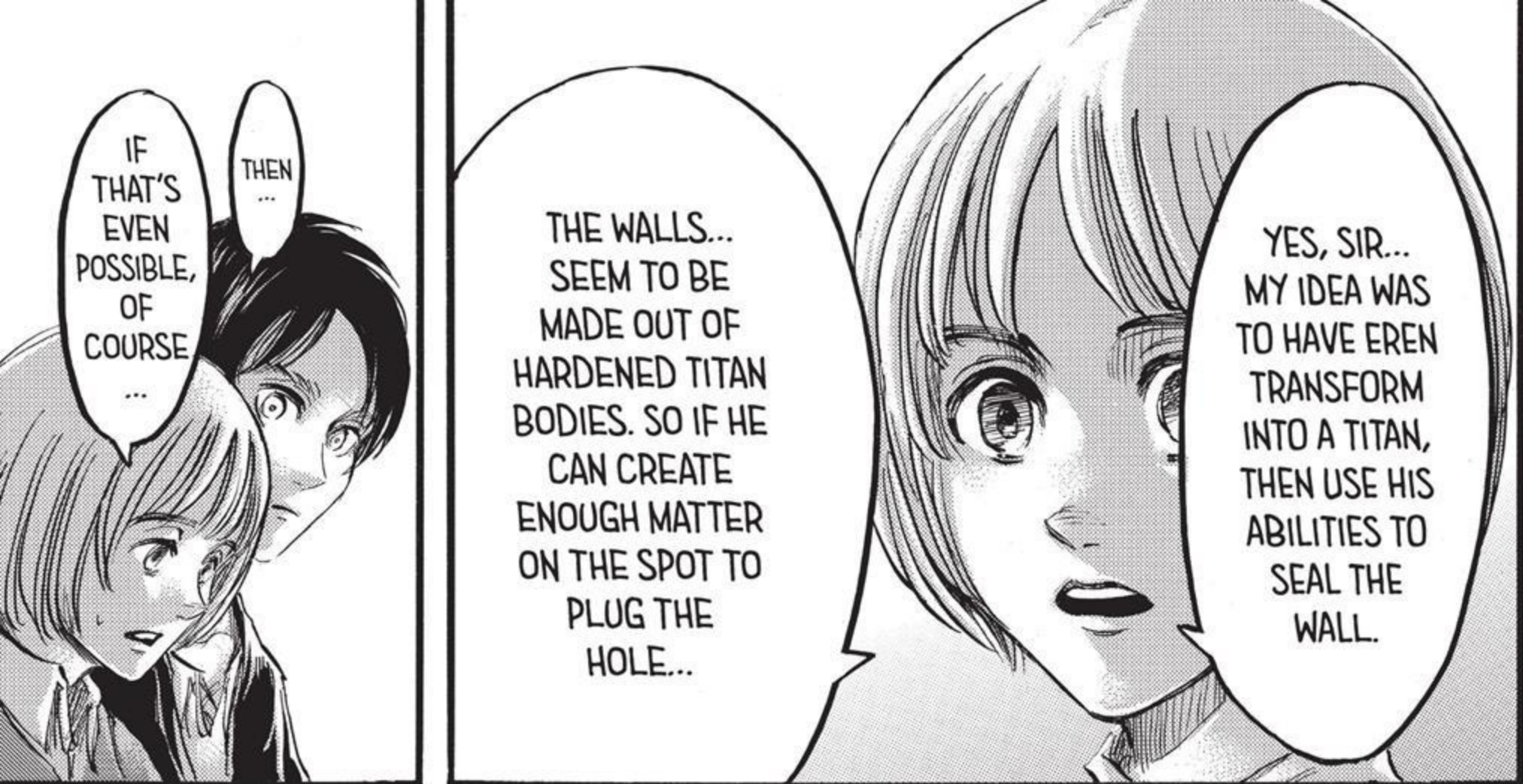
A
HAIR-
COVERED
TITAN
TOSSING
BOULDERS
AT US,

AS
LONG AS
WE CAN DO
THAT, MOST
OF THE
DETAILS
DON'T
MATTER.

WHE-
THER
IT'S THE
PEOPLE
NEXT TO US
TURNING
INTO
TITANS,

YOU SAID IF
THINGS WENT
WELL, WE COULD
PLUG UP THE
WALL FAST.
EXPLAIN THAT
AGAIN.

HEY,
ARMIN.

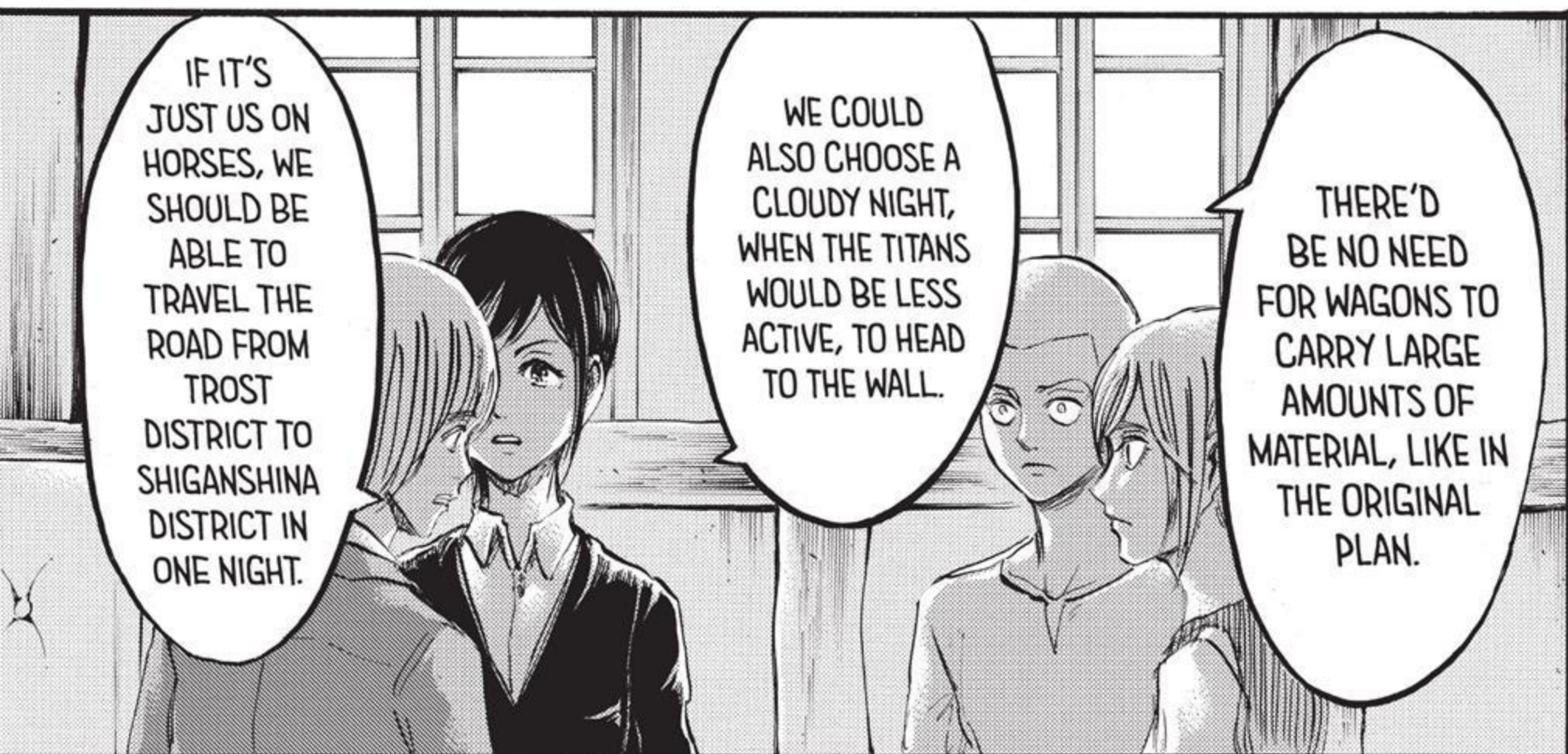


IF THAT'S EVEN POSSIBLE, OF COURSE ...

THEN ...

THE WALLS... SEEM TO BE MADE OUT OF HARDENED TITAN BODIES. SO IF HE CAN CREATE ENOUGH MATTER ON THE SPOT TO PLUG THE HOLE...

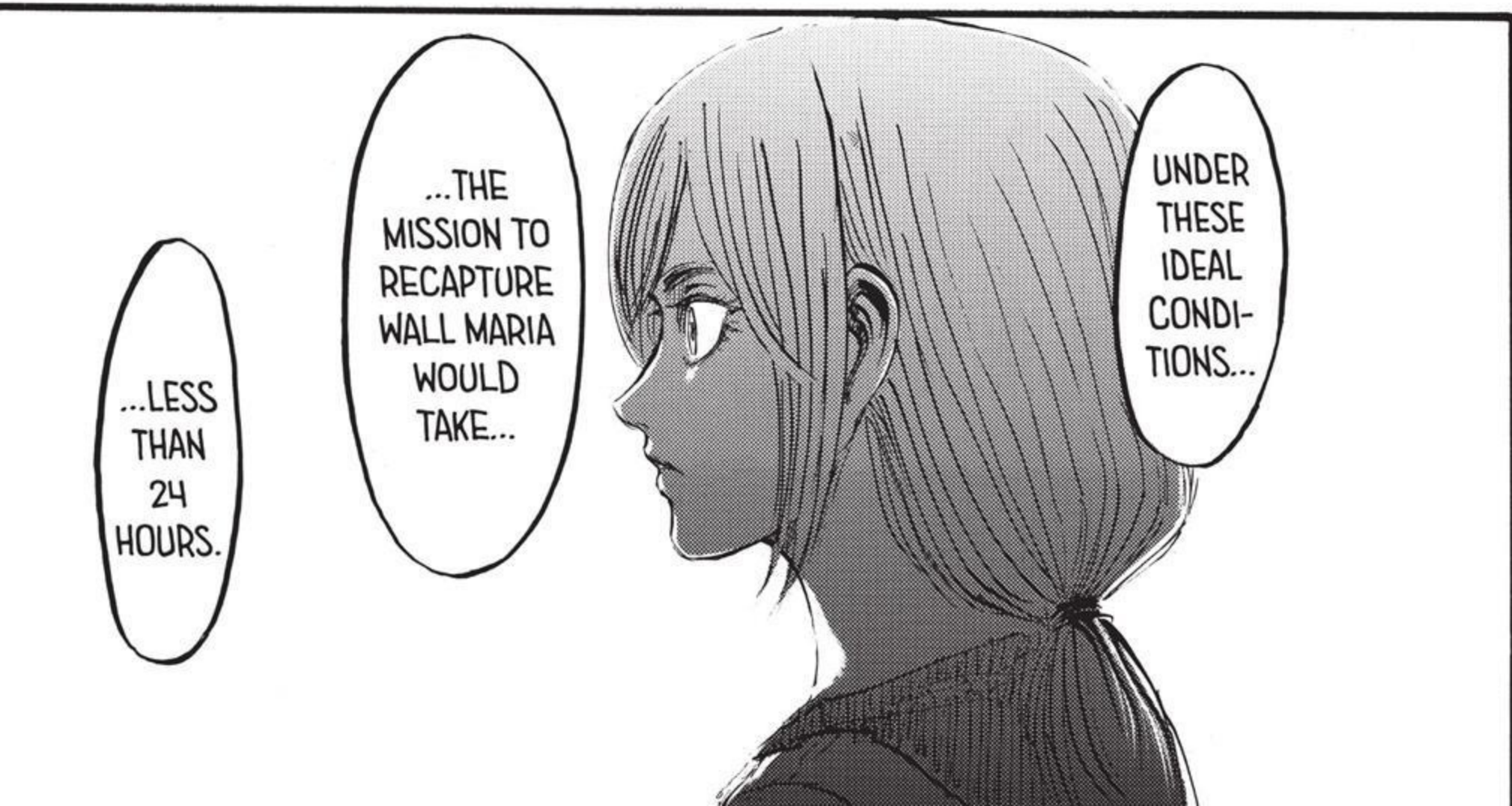
YES, SIR... MY IDEA WAS TO HAVE EREN TRANSFORM INTO A TITAN, THEN USE HIS ABILITIES TO SEAL THE WALL.



IF IT'S JUST US ON HORSES, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO TRAVEL THE ROAD FROM TROST DISTRICT TO SHIGANSHINA DISTRICT IN ONE NIGHT.

WE COULD ALSO CHOOSE A CLOUDY NIGHT, WHEN THE TITANS WOULD BE LESS ACTIVE, TO HEAD TO THE WALL.

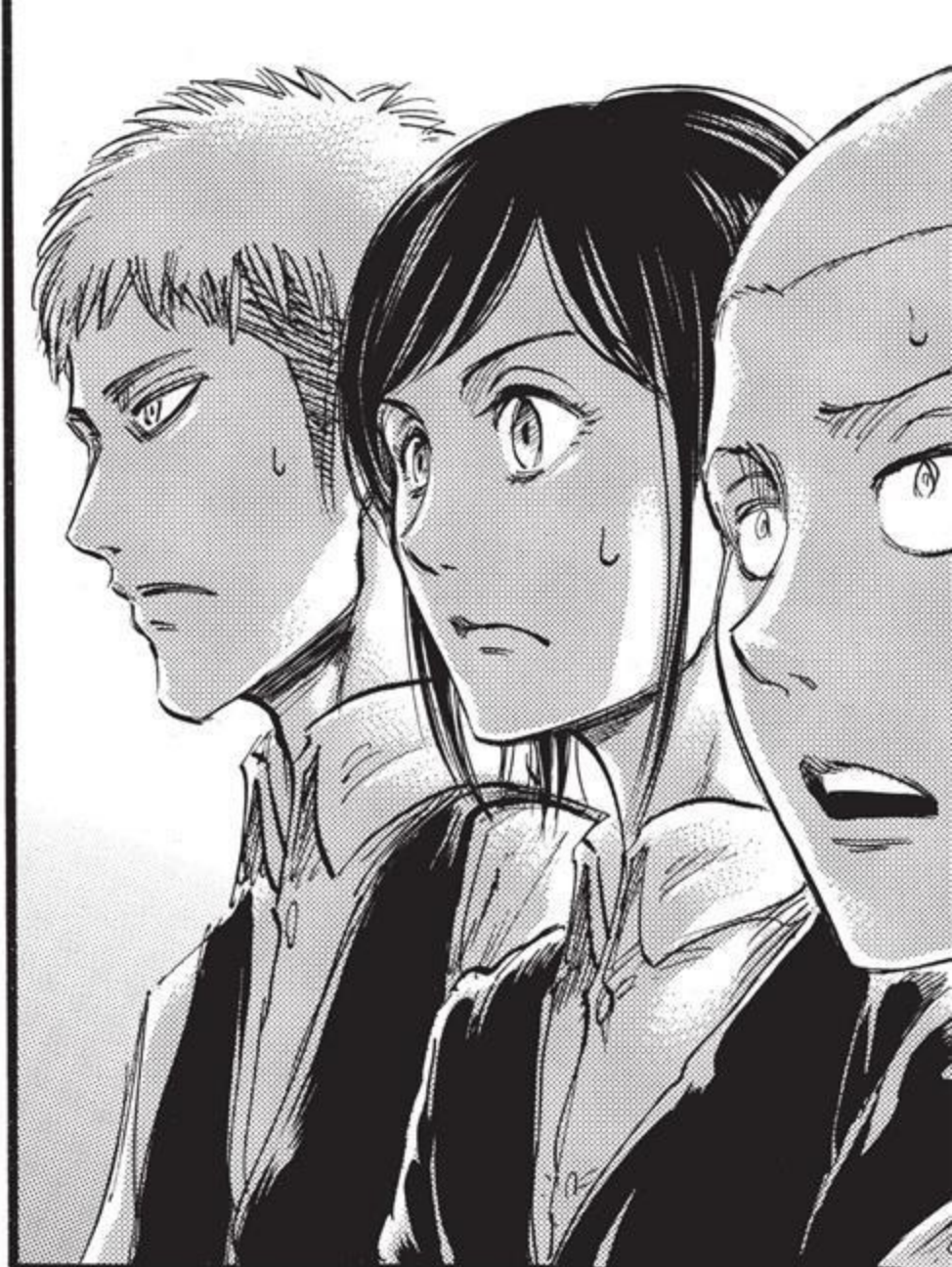
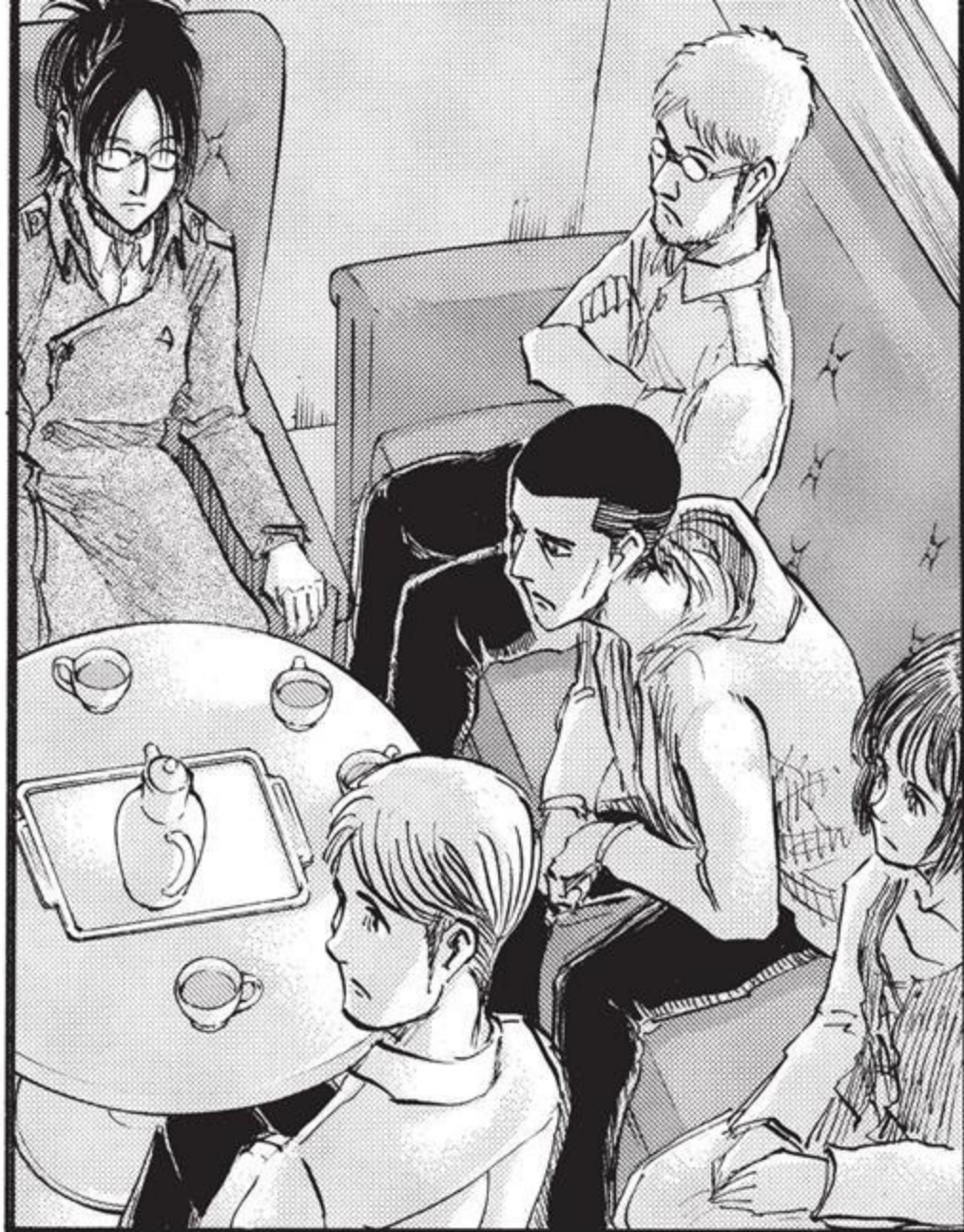
THERE'D BE NO NEED FOR WAGONS TO CARRY LARGE AMOUNTS OF MATERIAL, LIKE IN THE ORIGINAL PLAN.



...LESS THAN 24 HOURS.

...THE MISSION TO RECAPTURE WALL MARIA WOULD TAKE...

UNDER THESE IDEAL CONDITIONS...



IT DOES
SOUND LIKE
A PIE IN THE
SKY DREAM.

BUT
NOW
THAT I'M
TALKING
ABOUT IT
AGAIN,



I
UNDER-
STAND
THAT.

YES
...



...CAN
BE MADE
REAL
DEPENDS
ON THIS
GUY.

WHE-
THER
THAT
DREAM
...



AS LONG AS I'M ALIVE.

YES... OF COURSE. IT'S MY DUTY...



AND YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CHOOSES WHERE OUR EXPERIMENT WILL TAKE PLACE.

HEAR THAT, HANGE? HE'S FOR IT.



THIS SITUATION WILL ONLY COMPOUND THE CHAOS IN THE CITIES.

PATROLS IN THE WALLED CITIES HAVE BECOME SO INFREQUENT, THEY CAN'T EVEN MAINTAIN ORDER.

THAT REQUIRES AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF LABOR AND MANPOWER...

THE GARRISON IS FULLY MOBILIZED AND PATROLLING THE WALL



HM?



I'M EVEN MORE CONVINCED THAN BEFORE.

WE HAVE TO RE-CAPTURE WALL MARIA...



I WANT
THIS TO BE A
WORLD WHERE
PEOPLE CAN
LIVE WITHOUT
FIGHTING EACH
OTHER.



I WANT
EVERYONE
TO FEEL
SAFE AGAIN
SOON...



THIS TIME,
WE'LL EXPERIMENT
WITHOUT FEAR TO
FIND OUT MORE
ABOUT HIS
HARDENING ABILITY,
AND EVERYTHING
ELSE.

I WANT
TO TEST
OUT EREN'S
POWERS AS
SOON AS
POSSIBLE.



THAT'S
WHY...



IF EREN CAN
REALLY DO THAT,
IT COULD VERY
WELL TURN OUR
SITUATION
COMPLETELY
AROUND!

THE IDEA...
THAT HE MAY HAVE
MANIPULATED THE
TITANS... IS AN
AMAZING
POSSIBILITY.



...AND
TAKE
ACTION!
BUT...

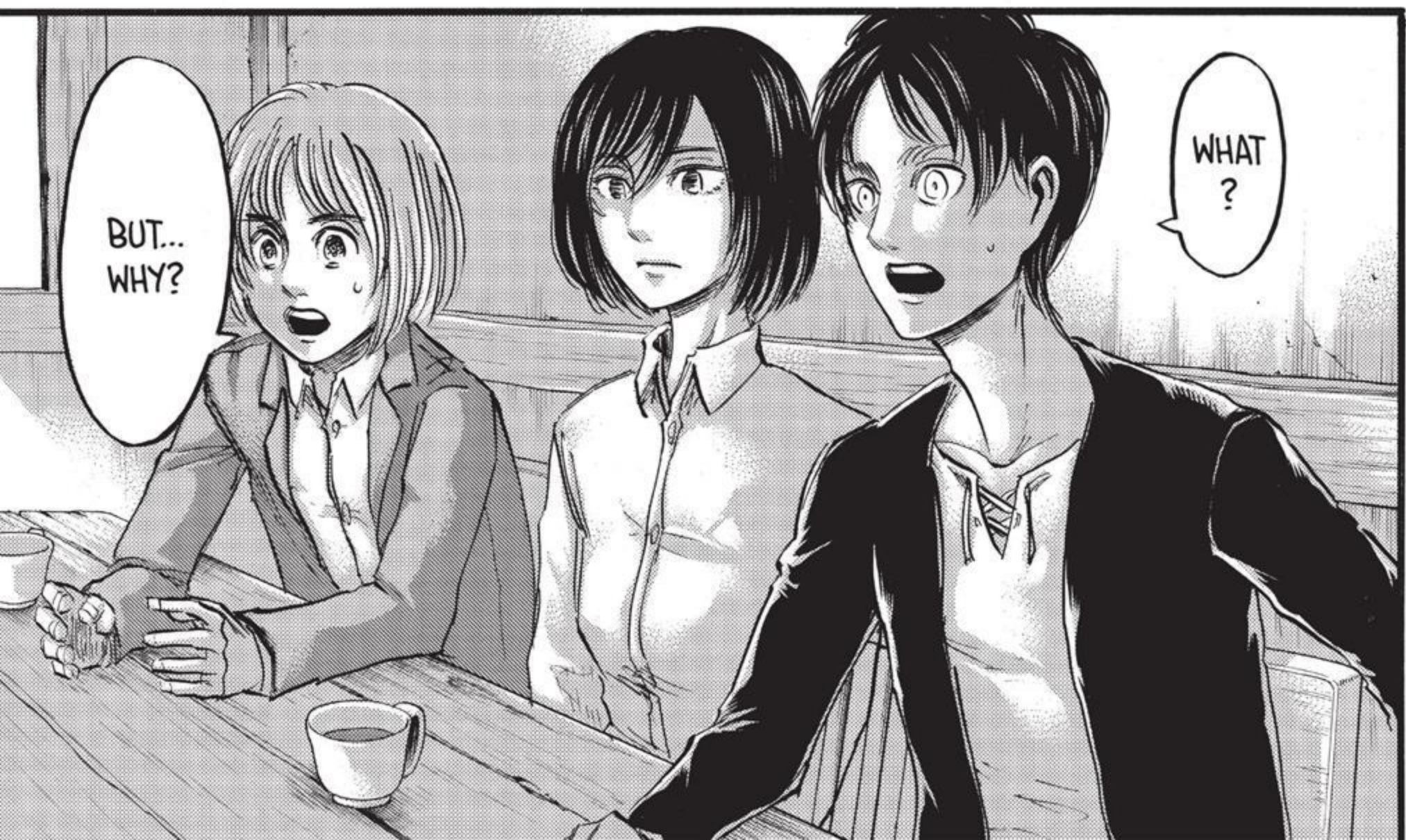
WE
HAVE TO
HURRY...

WE
CAN'T
SIT
AROUND
AND
WASTE
TIME!

THAT'S
WHY
...!

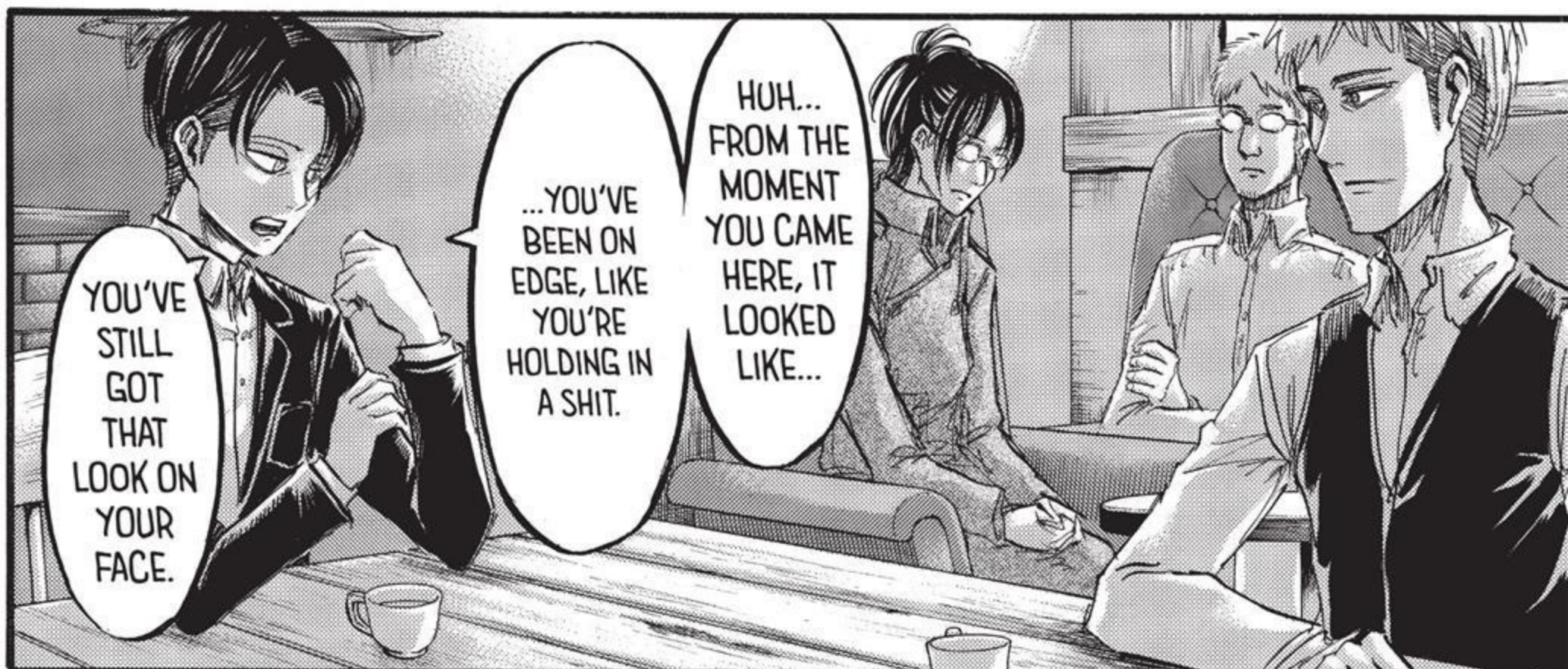


I STILL
WANT EREN
TO LAY LOW
FOR THE
TIME
BEING.



BUT...
WHY?

WHAT
?





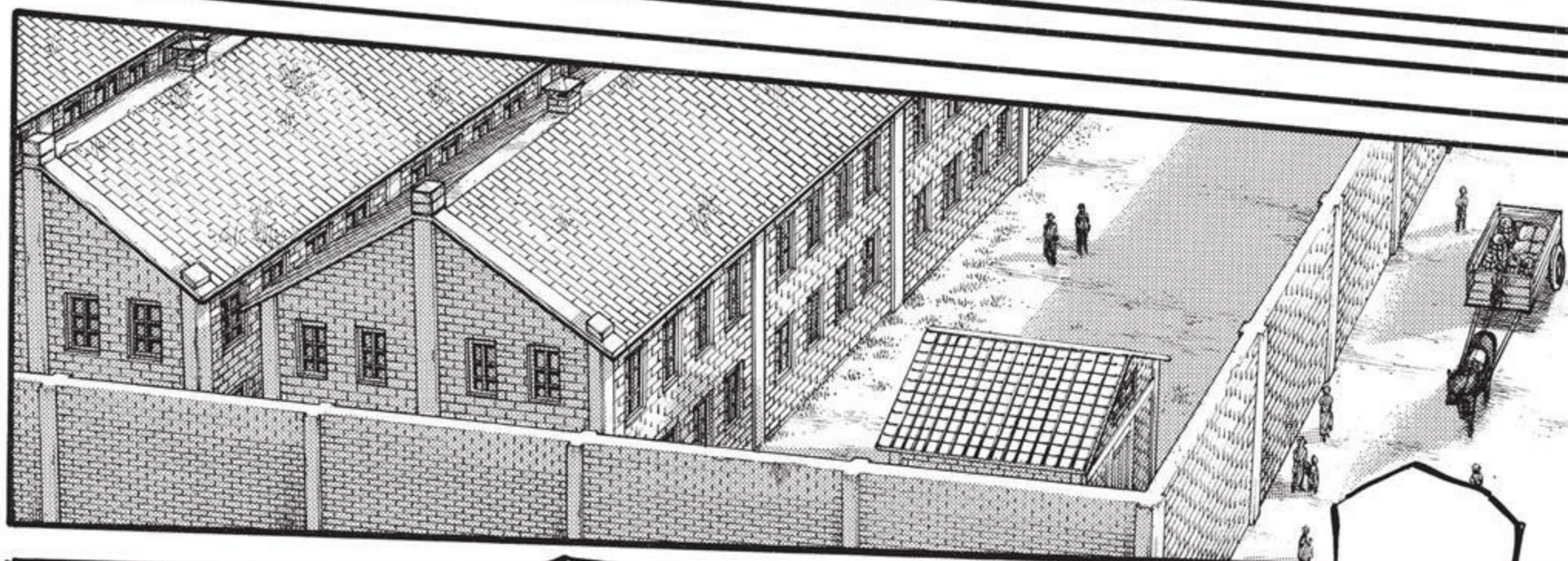
...INSIDE
THE TROST
DISTRICT
BARRACKS.

MINISTER
NICK WAS
FOUND
DEAD THIS
MORNING...



I DON'T
KNOW THE
CAUSE OF
DEATH...

...BUT I
KNOW
HE WAS
MURDERED.



MPS
ARE
INVESTIGATING
RIGHT
NOW.

WE
DON'T
KNOW
YET.

HOW
DID THEY
FIND THIS
LOCATION?!

FOUND
DEAD?
HOW?!



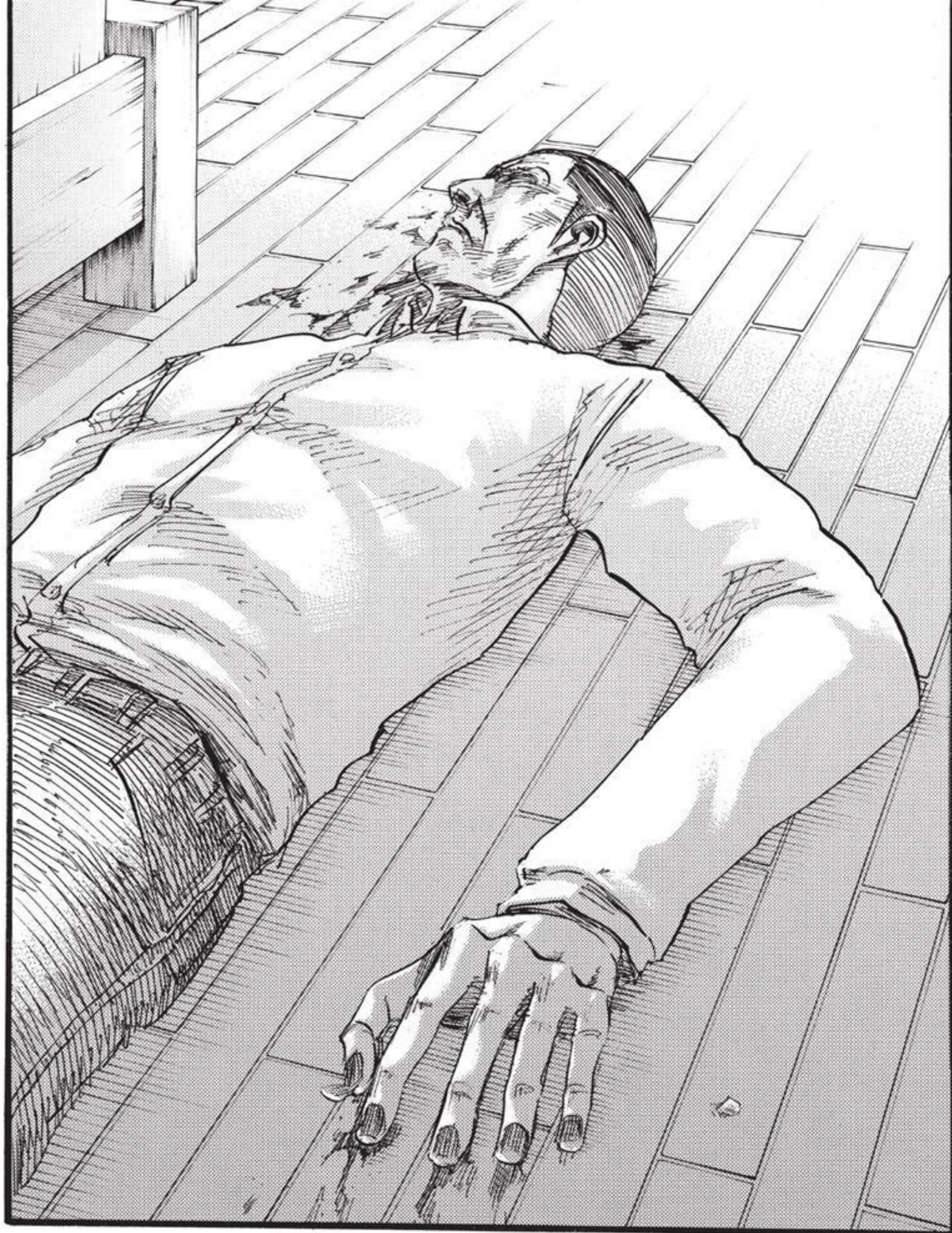
HEY!

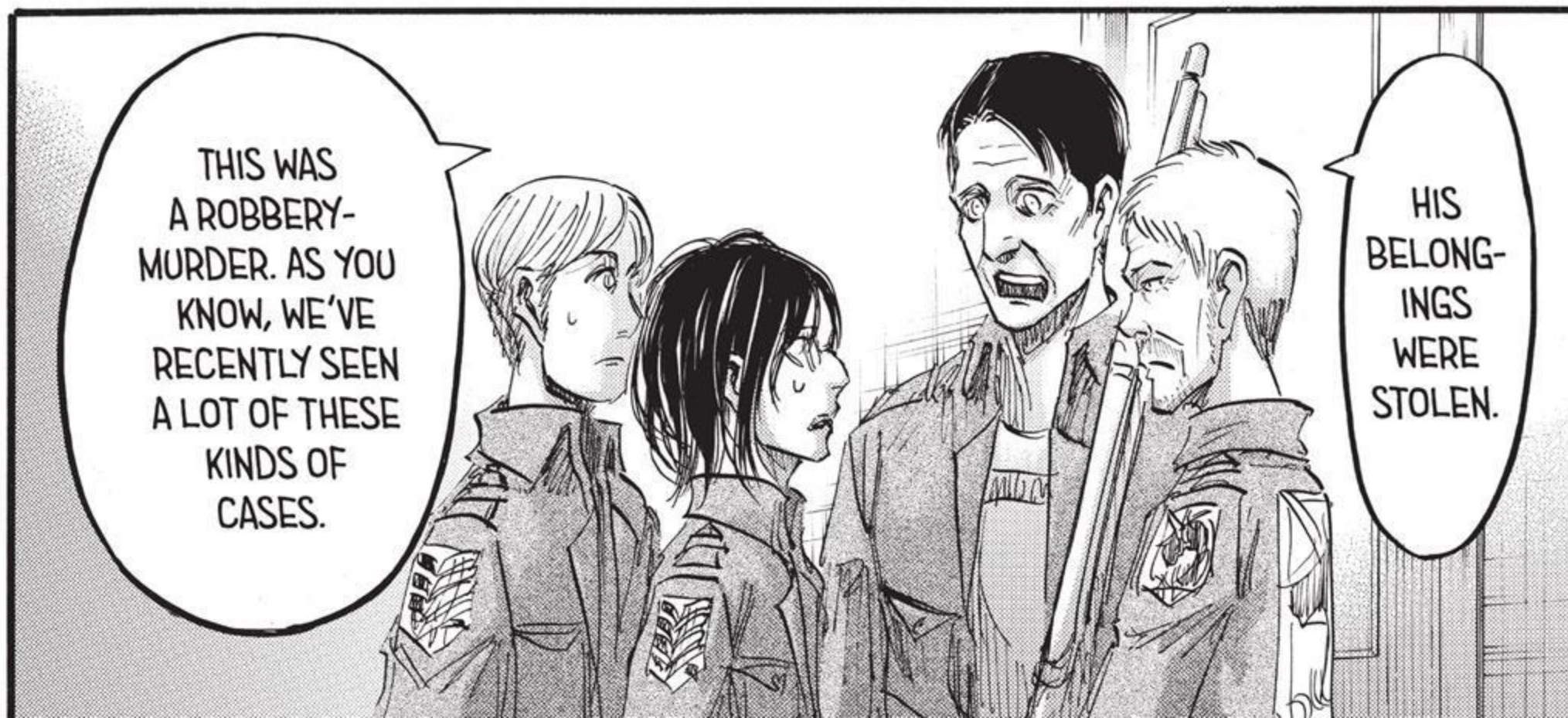
NICK!!



STEP

STEP







...
WHAT'S
THAT
?

WHY
WOULD
A ROBBER
BOTTER TO
BREAK INTO
A MILITARY
BARRACKS
?!
...



THERE'S
NO
WAY...



WHAT
WAS
THE
METHOD
OF
ENTRY
?!

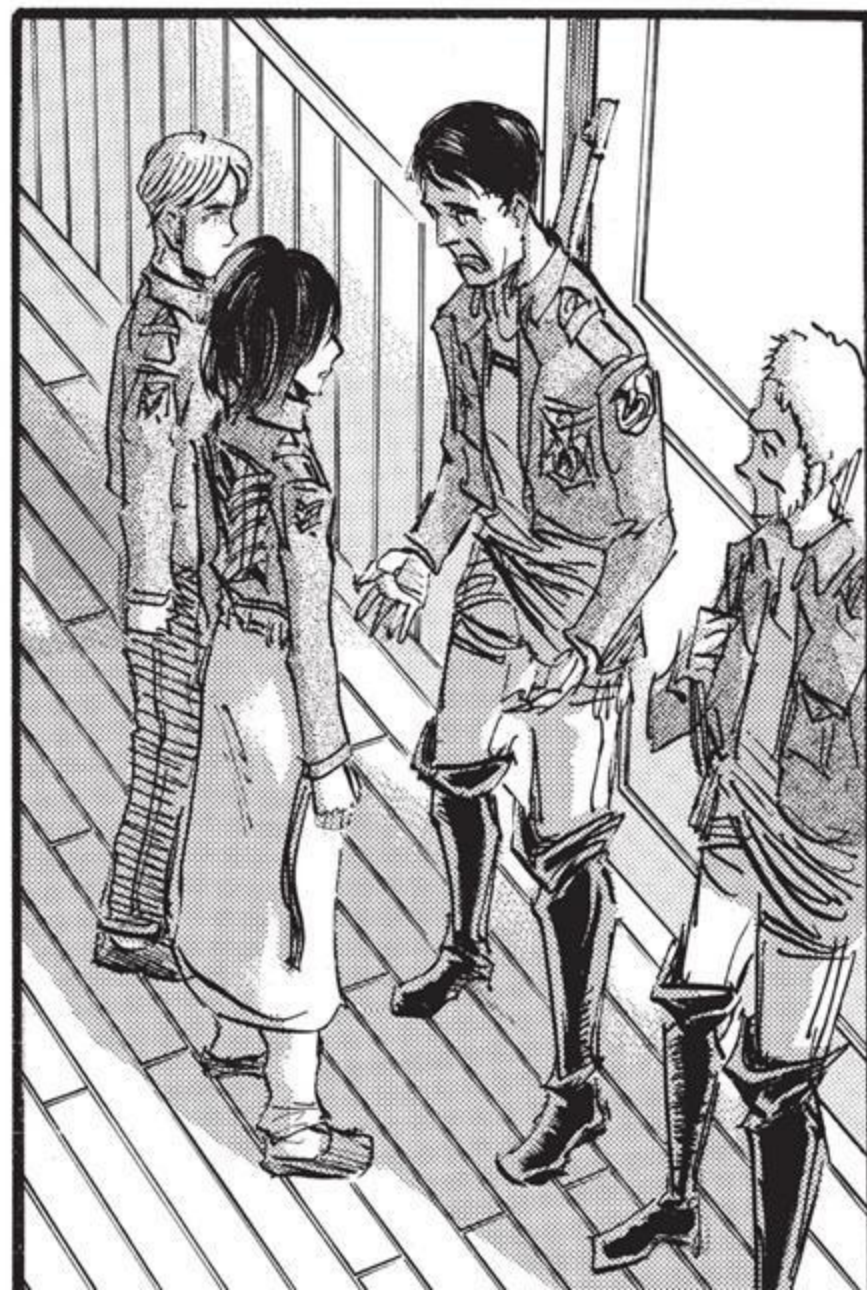
HIS
FACE
LOOKED
LIKE IT
HAD
BEEN
BEATEN
REPEAT-
EDLY!

AND WHAT
ABOUT THE
CAUSE OF
DEATH?!
AND THE
MURDER
WEAPON?!

WHY
WERE
HIS
NAILS
TORN
OFF
?!

DID
YOU
LOOK
AT HIS
FINGERS
?!







MILITARY
POLICE
BRIGADE
INTERIOR
FIRST
SQUAD
...?



SO
THEY'RE
NOT THE
LOCAL
MPS...

I
THOUGHT
THESE TWO
LOOKED
STRANGELY
OLD...

WHY WOULD
MPS FROM
THE ROYAL
CAPITAL COME
ALL THE WAY
SOUTH TO
TROST
DISTRICT?



UNLIKE YOU
WASHOUTS,
ANY SOLDIER
WORTH A DAMN
IS BUSY RIGHT
NOW!

...DOES THAT SEEM
STRANGE TO YOU? AT A
TIME LIKE THIS, WHEN
WE'RE SHORT ON
SOLDIERS AND PUBLIC
ORDER IS
DETERIORATING?
FRONT-LINE TOWNS
LIKE THIS ONE NEED
GOOD MEN
MOST.







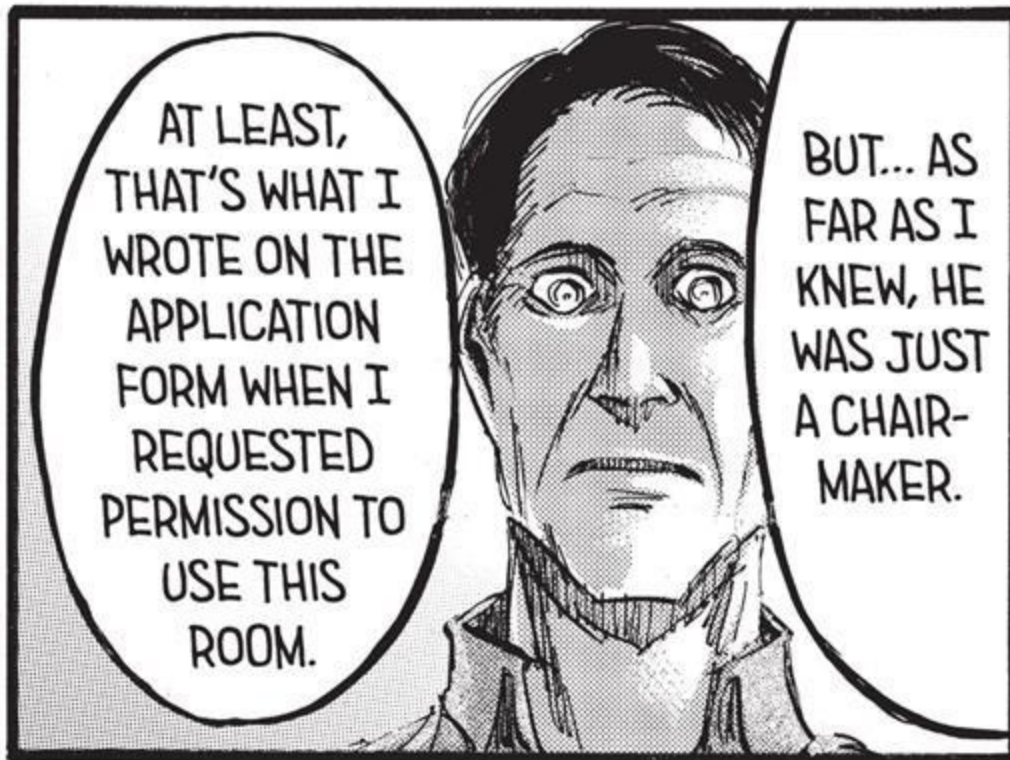
HE WAS A PERSONAL FRIEND OF MINE. HE HAD NO PLACE TO LIVE AFTER THE RECENT TURMOIL.

YES... I WAS THE ONE WHO INVITED HIM HERE.

IT WAS THE SURVEY CORPS THAT PUT MINISTER NICK IN THESE BARRACKS, WASN'T IT?

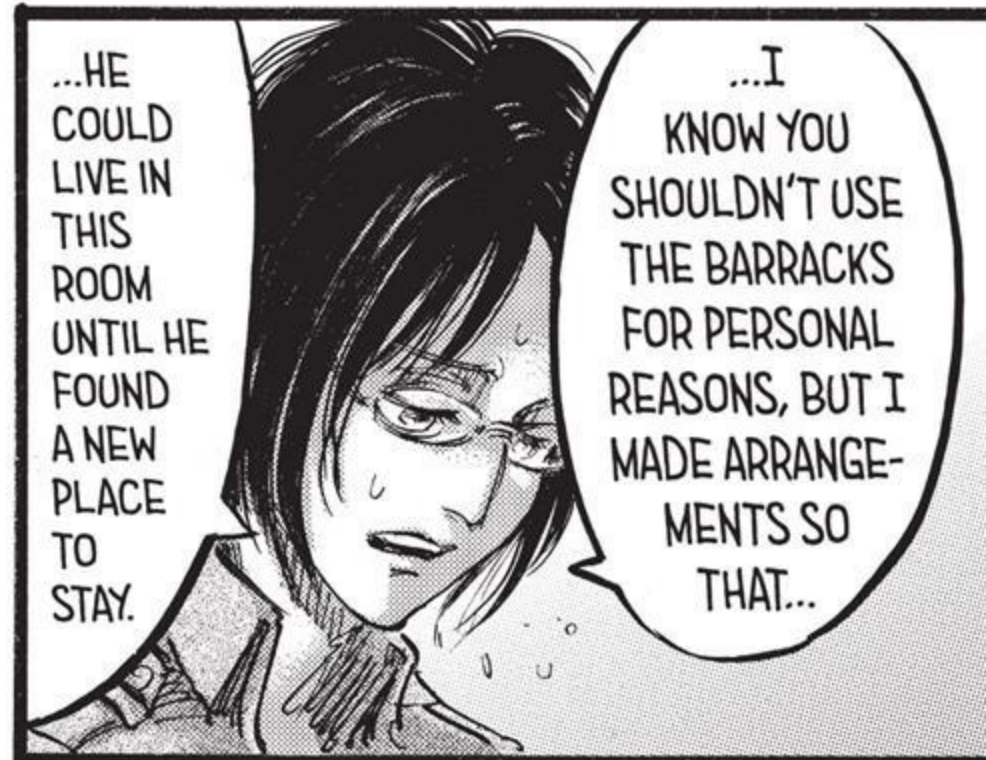


...WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT I WROTE ON THE APPLICATION FORM WHEN I REQUESTED PERMISSION TO USE THIS ROOM.

BUT... AS FAR AS I KNEW, HE WAS JUST A CHAIR-MAKER.



...HE COULD LIVE IN THIS ROOM UNTIL HE FOUND A NEW PLACE TO STAY.

...I KNOW YOU SHOULDN'T USE THE BARRACKS FOR PERSONAL REASONS, BUT I MADE ARRANGEMENTS SO THAT...



AND MOST OF ALL, NICK COULDN'T EVEN LEAVE THIS ROOM BECAUSE OF THE SHOCK HE SUFFERED WHEN THE TITANS RAN HIM DOWN...

I'D NEVER HEARD NICK SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THE WALLISTS...

AT THE VERY LEAST... HE WASN'T CARRYING ANY CLOTHES OR SACRED OBJECTS RELATED TO THE WALLISTS WHEN HE ARRIVED HERE.

HE FLED COMPLETELY EMPTY-HANDED.





GIVE
THAT
COWARDLY
BASTARD A
MESSAGE.



...AND
PERHAPS
THAT MADE YOU
THINK THERE
WAS NOTHING
YOU COULD'VE
DONE.

...OR
MAYBE YOU
THINK YOU'RE
NOT GUILTY
BECAUSE YOU
WERE JUST
FOLLOWING
ORDERS...

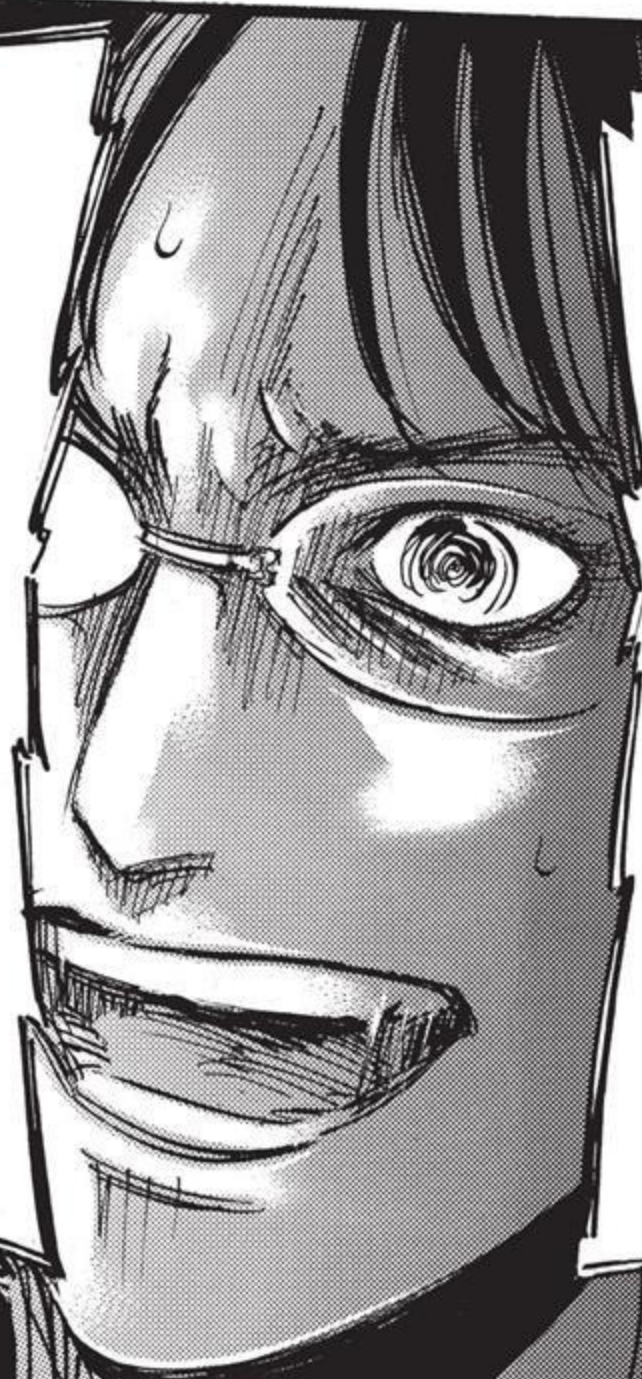


YOU MAY
HAVE HAD
SOME SORT
OF JUST
CAUSE IN
MIND WHEN
YOU DID
THIS...

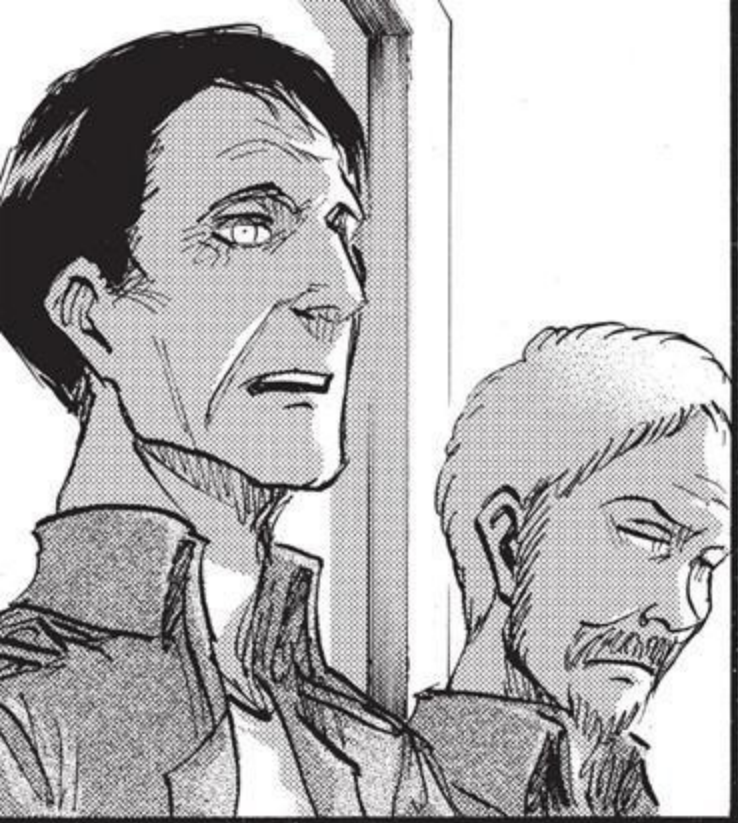


**OH,
I
FEEL
SORRY
FOR
THEM
AL-
READY
!!**

**I SWEAR,
THE FILTH
THAT DID
THIS WILL
FEEL EVERY
BIT OF PAIN
THAT THEY
INFLECTED ON
MY FRIEND
AND MORE!**



**BUT
I
DON'T
GIVE
A
DAMN
ABOUT
ANY
OF
THAT
!!**



THE
SKIN ON
HIS FIST
HAD BEEN
STRIPPED
OFF.

DJEL
SANNES,
MILITARY POLICE
BRIGADE
INTERIOR FIRST
SQUAD.



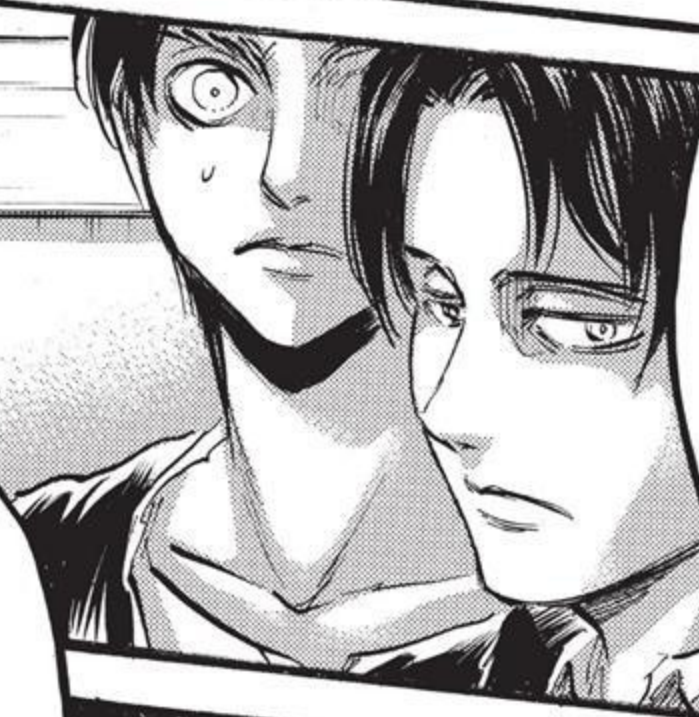
YEAH
...

SQUAD
LEADER...
DID THEY
REALLY
...?



NICK WAS
TORTURED
BY THE
INTERIOR
FIRST SQUAD
OF THE
MILITARY
POLICE...

...THEN
KILLED.



I HAD
THOUGHT THAT
THE CHURCH
WOULD TRY TO
GET THEIR HANDS
ON NICK ONCE
THEY LEARNED
HE WAS HELPING
THE SURVEY
CORPS.



THAT'S
WHY I HID HIS
IDENTITY AND
PUT HIM IN THE
BARRACKS.
BUT...

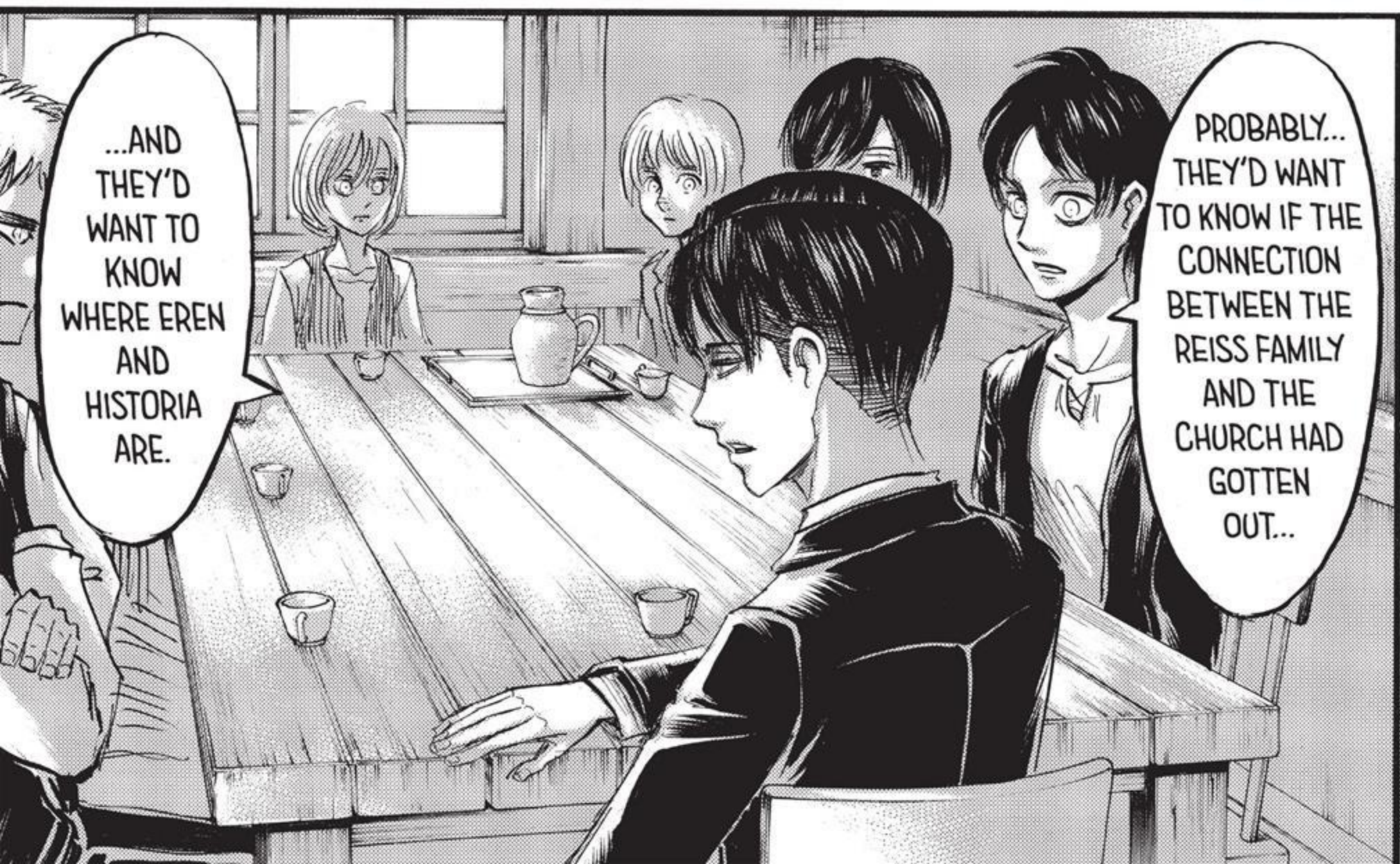
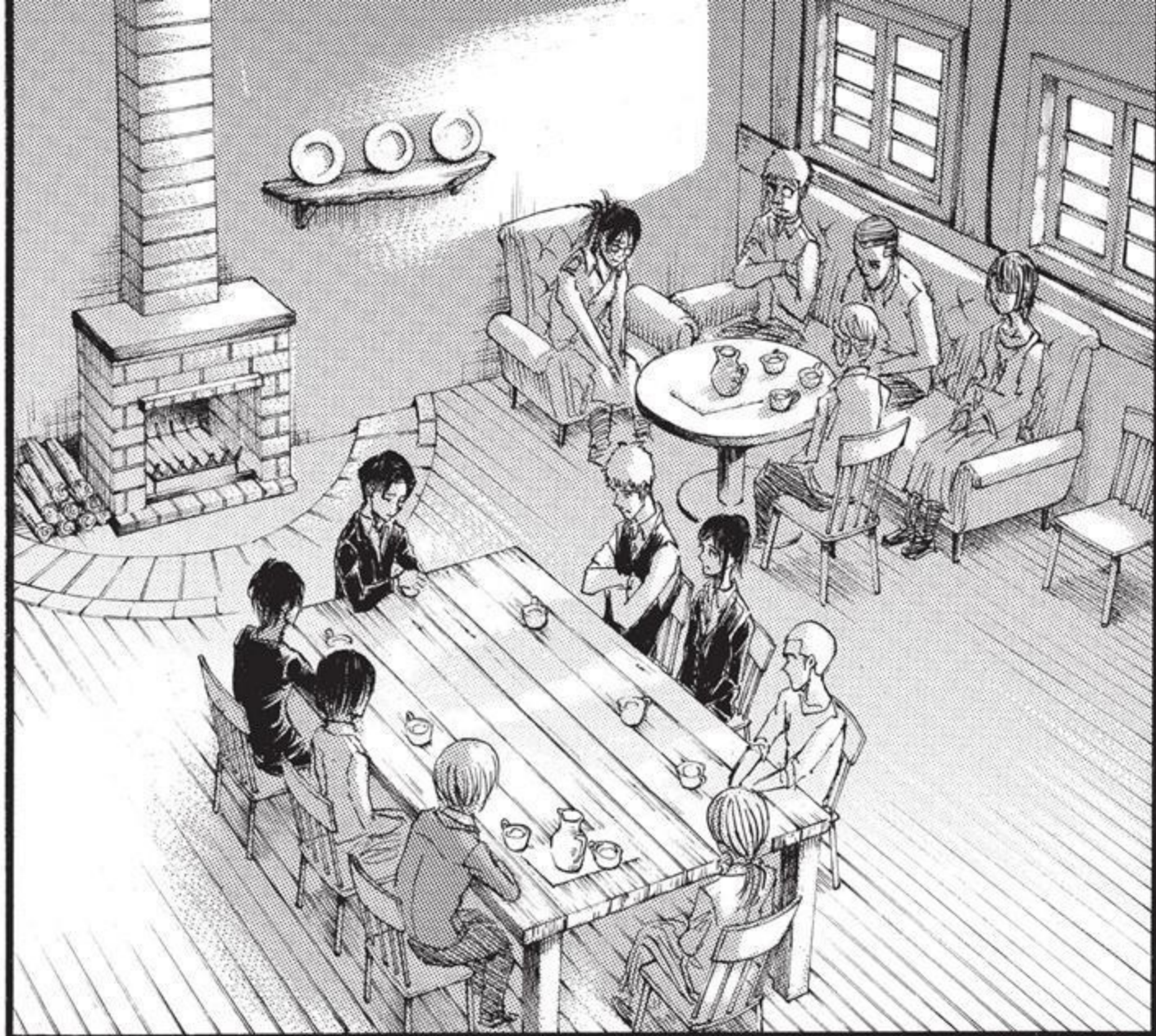


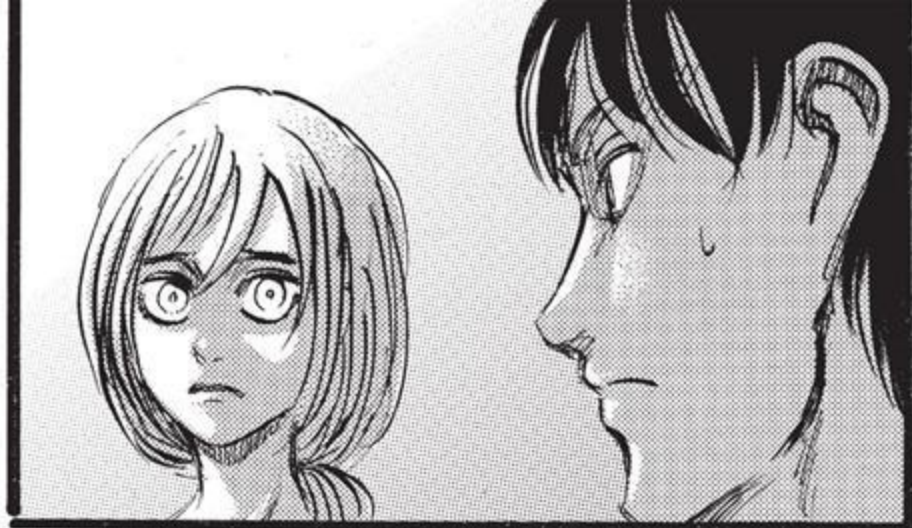
IT'S
MY FAULT
THAT NICK
WAS
KILLED.

I WAS
NAÏVE...



I NEVER
IMAGINED
THEY'D USE
SOLDIERS
TO KILL
HIM...





STILL, IF THEY CHANGE THEIR METHODS, THERE ARE PLENTY OF WAYS THEY COULD FIND US... WE DON'T KNOW WHO IS A FRIEND AND WHO IS AN ENEMY RIGHT NOW.

SO NOW THE TABLES HAVE TURNED ON THE INTERIOR MPS. **WE'RE WATCHING THEM...** SO THEY SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING TOO EXTREME.

OF COURSE, WE HAVE SHARED THIS INFORMATION WITH COMMANDER ERWIN, COMMANDER PIXIS, AND THE ENTIRE SURVEY CORPS.



THAT'S WHY YOU WANT TO HOLD OFF ON EXPERIMENTING WITH EREN, HANGE?

AND SO ...



YEAH ...



... **SOMEONE** FROM THE INTERIOR HAS BEEN TRYING DESPERATELY TO GET THEIR HANDS ON HIM.

FROM THE TIME EREN'S TITAN POWERS WERE RE-VEALED ...



EVEN COMING HERE TODAY, WE SPLIT INTO TWO GROUPS AND ASSIGNED SHADOWS TO LOOK FOR ANYONE TAILING US.

THOUGH I DON'T BELIEVE THIS LOCATION IS COMPROMISED YET...



EVERYTHING
INSIDE THE
WALLS HAS
BECOME
UNSTABLE,
TOO...

THEY'RE
TRAMPLING THROUGH
TERRITORY THEY USED
TO SEE AS OFF-LIMITS.
THEY MAY HAVE
ALREADY SPLIT THE
MILITARY INTO TWO
FACTIONS.

BUT...
SINCE THE
RECENT TURMOIL,
THE LEVEL OF
PRESSURE HAS
CLEARLY
CHANGED.



...IS BEING
FATALLY STABBED
IN THE BACK
WHILE OUR
ATTENTION IS
DIVERTED
OUTSIDE THE
WALLS.

IN
OTHER
WORDS,
WHAT WE
NEED
TO BE
WORRIED
ABOUT
...

IF YOU THINK
ABOUT THIS CALMLY, IT
BECOMES CLEAR THAT
"OUTSIDE ENEMIES" LIKE
REINER AND BERTOLT HAD
ALLIES ON THE INSIDE
THE WHOLE TIME.



YOU'RE SAYING WE
SHOULD JUST SIT
HERE AND HAVE TEA
PARTIES INSTEAD?

SO?



NO.
IT'S
THE...

...
OP-
PO-
SITE.

"JUST
FOR
NOW"
?



...
PLEASE.
JUST
FOR
NOW.

THERE'S
STILL A
LOT WE
CAN DO
INSIDE...
LIKE
KNITTING.



IF WE DO
NOTHING BUT
RUN, THEN ALL
WE CAN DO IS
GET CAUGHT.

THEY'LL
FIND US
HERE
EVENTU-
ALLY.

DO YOU
THINK THESE
PEOPLE ARE
GOING TO GIVE
UP THAT
QUICKLY?



...
HUH ?

HOW
MANY OF
NICK'S
FINGER-
NAILS
WERE
TORN
OFF?



BUT RIGHT
NOW, YOU FEEL
RESPONSIBLE
FOR NICK BEING
KILLED, AND
THAT'S MADE
YOU TIMID.

HANGE...
YOU'RE
NORMALLY
CLEAR-
HEADED.



AH
...

ALL THE
ONES I
COULD
SEE WERE
TORN
OFF.



...I
ONLY SAW
HIM FOR A
MOMENT...
BUT...

I
DON'T
KNOW.

HOW
MANY ?

YOU
SAW HIM,
DIDN'T
YOU?



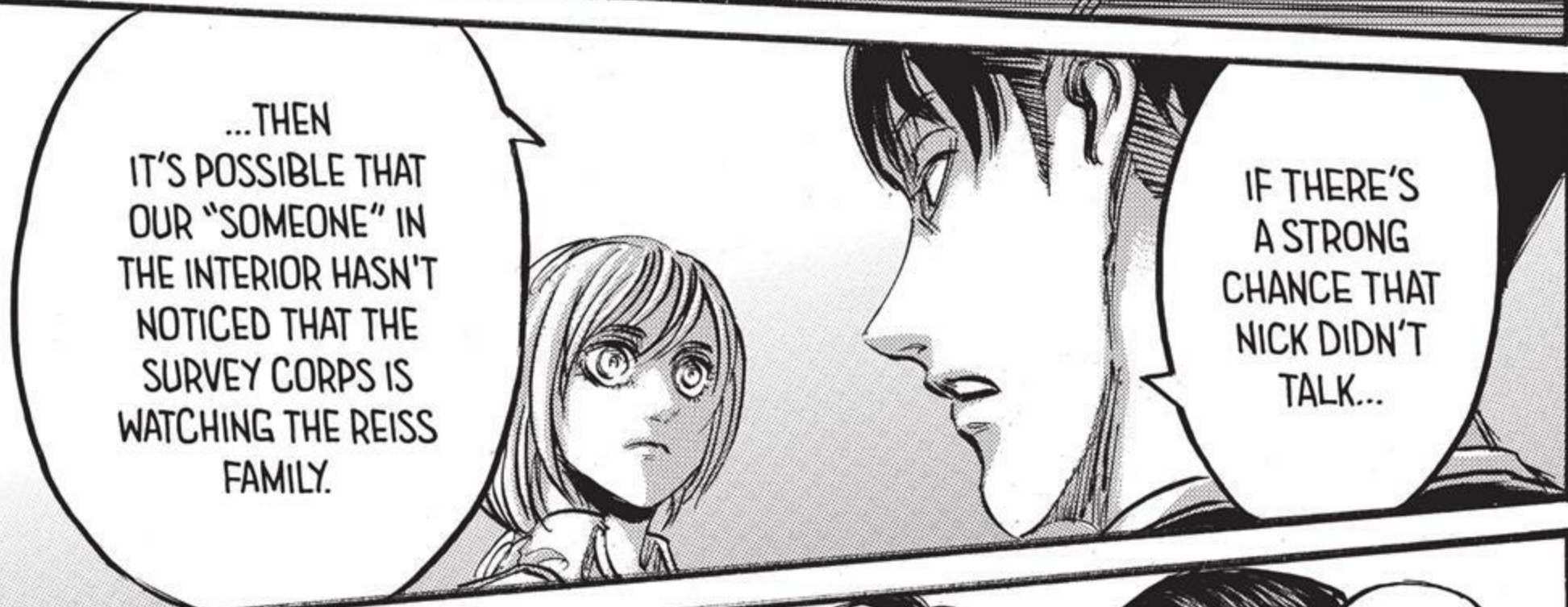
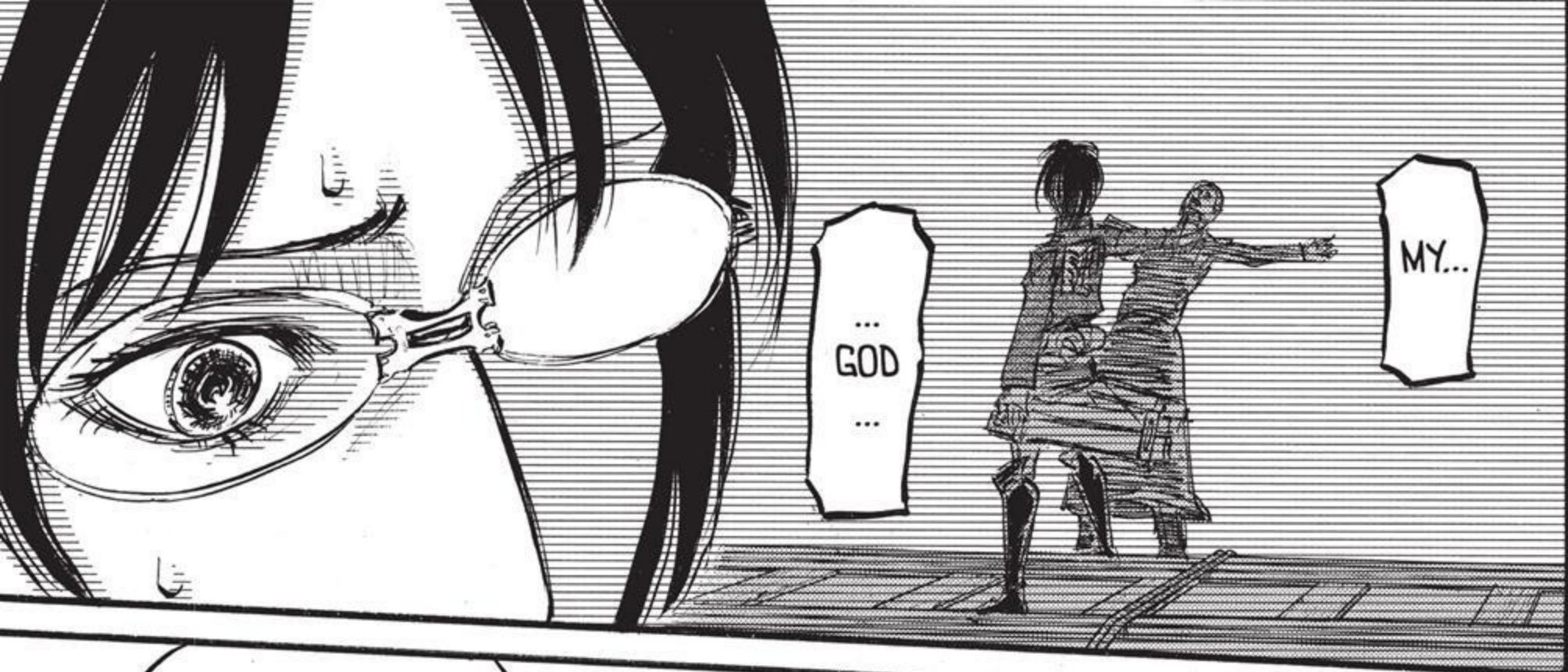
...IT
LOOKS
LIKE HE
HELD ONTO
HIS FAITH
TO THE
END.



WHILE
I DO THINK
THAT
MINISTER
NICK WAS
AN IDIOT...

IF
YOU'RE
NOT GOING
TO TALK, IT
DOESN'T
MATTER HOW
MANY OF
YOUR NAILS
THEY RIP
OFF.

IF
YOU'RE
GOING TO
TALK,
YOU TALK
AFTER
ONE.



...THEN
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT
OUR "SOMEONE" IN
THE INTERIOR HASN'T
NOTICED THAT THE
SURVEY CORPS IS
WATCHING THE REISS
FAMILY.

IF THERE'S
A STRONG
CHANCE THAT
NICK DIDN'T
TALK...



...OR WE
EXTERMIN-
ATE OUR
WOULD-BE
KILLERS
FIRST.

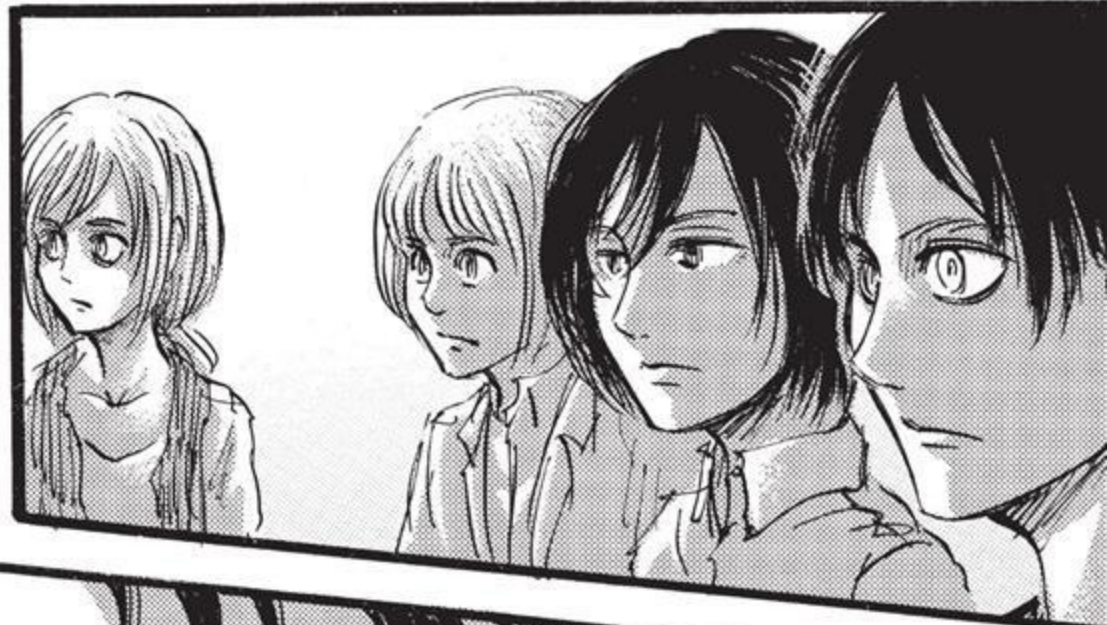
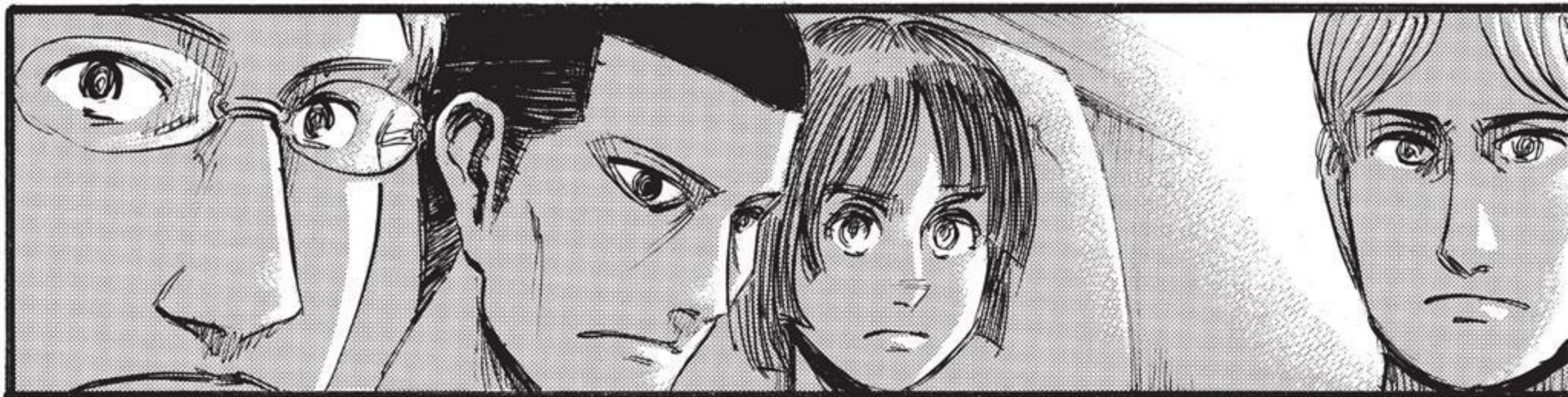
WE GO
OUTSIDE
BEFORE
WE'RE
STABBED
IN THE
BACK...

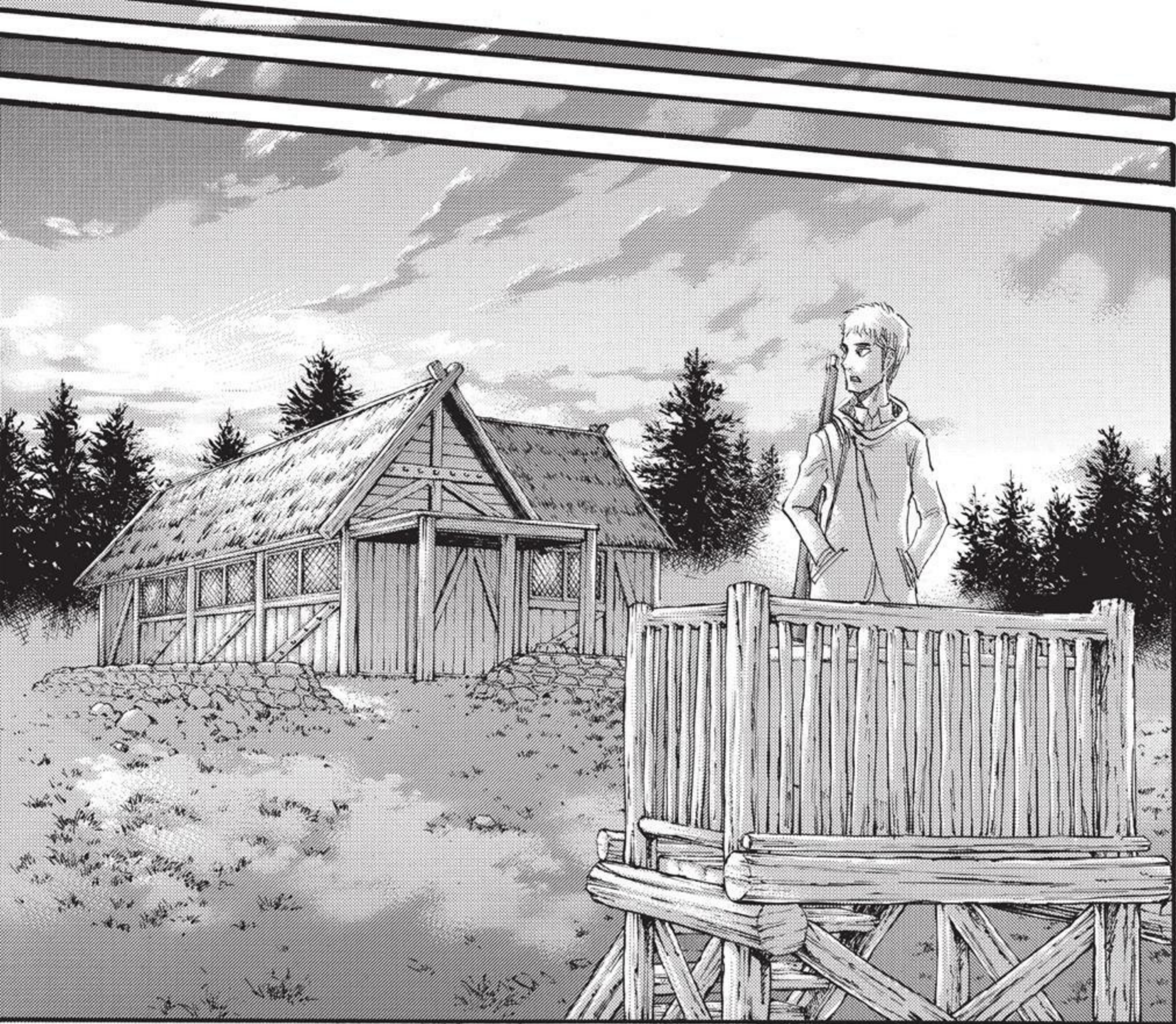
ANYWAY...
THE WAY I
SEE IT,
THERE'S
TWO PATHS
WE CAN GO
DOWN.

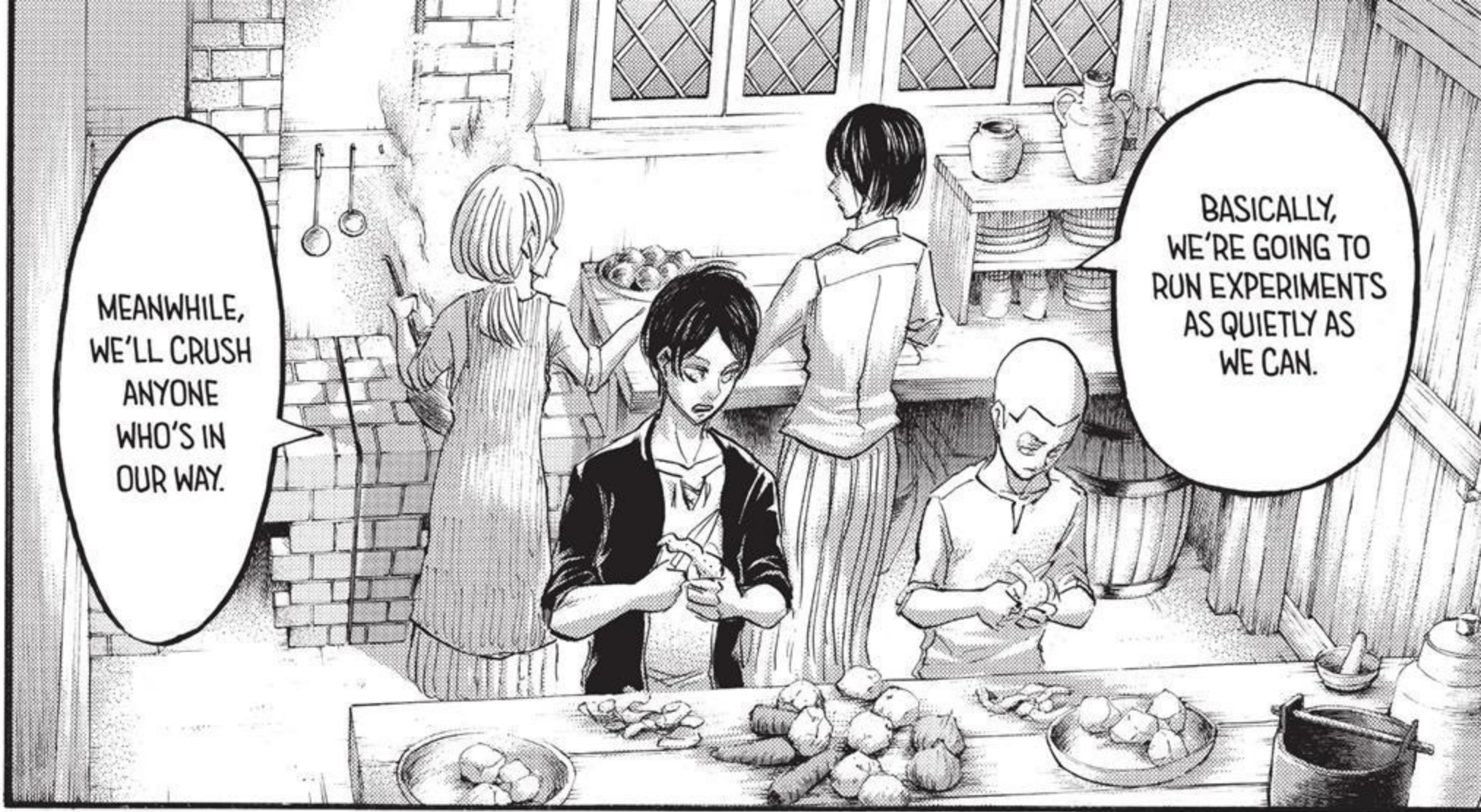


...GO
BEFORE
WE'RE
STABBED
?

WHICH
DO YOU
CHOOSE,
HANGE?







MEANWHILE,
WE'LL CRUSH
ANYONE
WHO'S IN
OUR WAY.

BASICALLY,
WE'RE GOING TO
RUN EXPERIMENTS
AS QUIETLY AS
WE CAN.



YMIR
SAID THAT IT
WAS THAT
APE THAT
TURNED MY
WHOLE
VILLAGE INTO
TITANS,
RIGHT?

PERSON-
ALLY...
I JUST
WANNA KILL
THAT BEAST
TITAN.

...
YEAH.



...LET'S
GET
ARMIN
TO EX-
PLAIN
LATER.

IF
YOU
WANT
MORE
DETAILS
...WELL
...

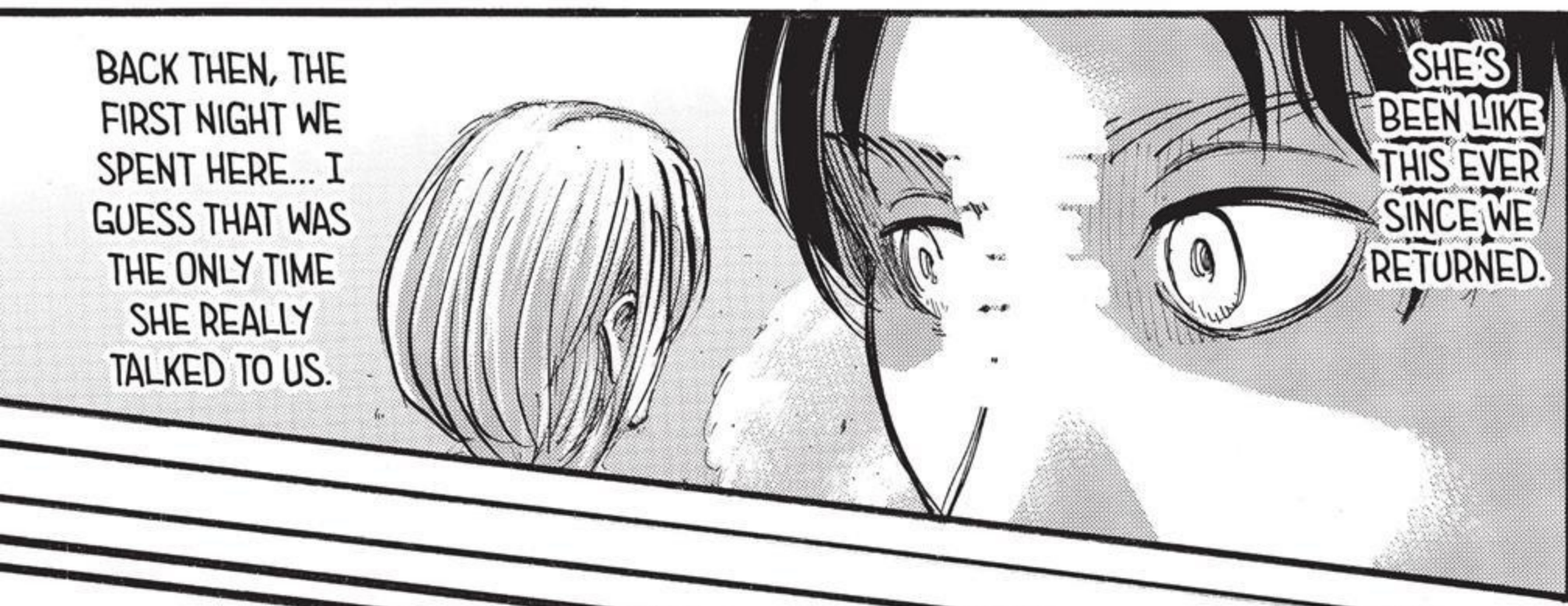
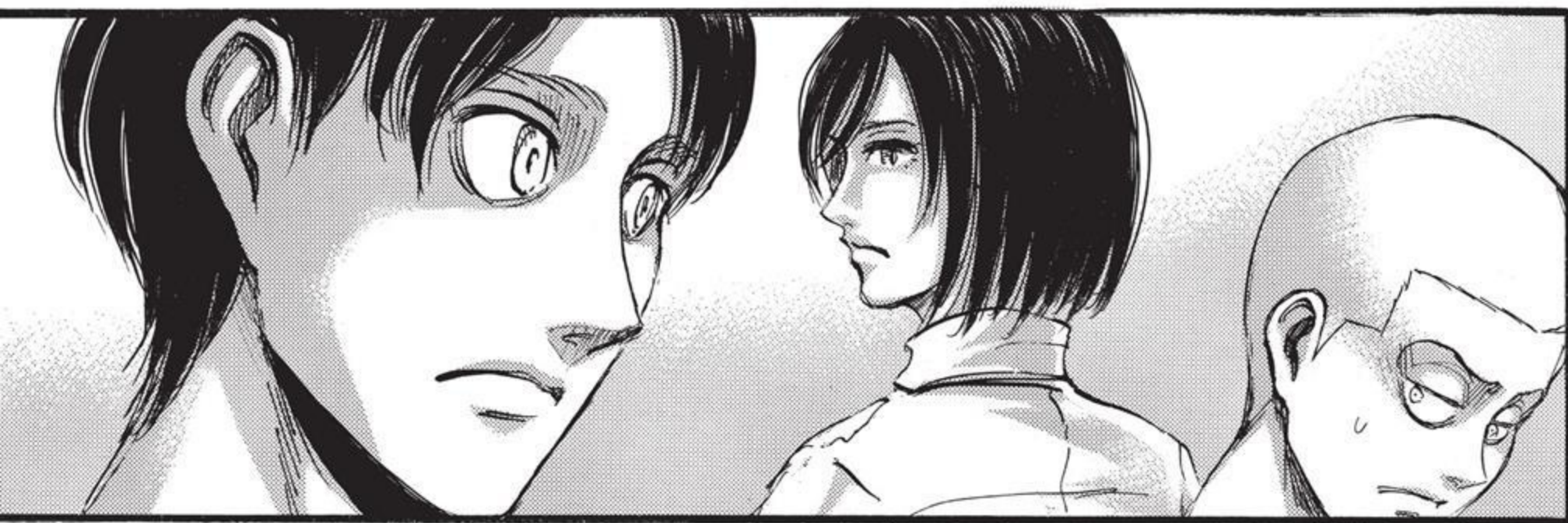
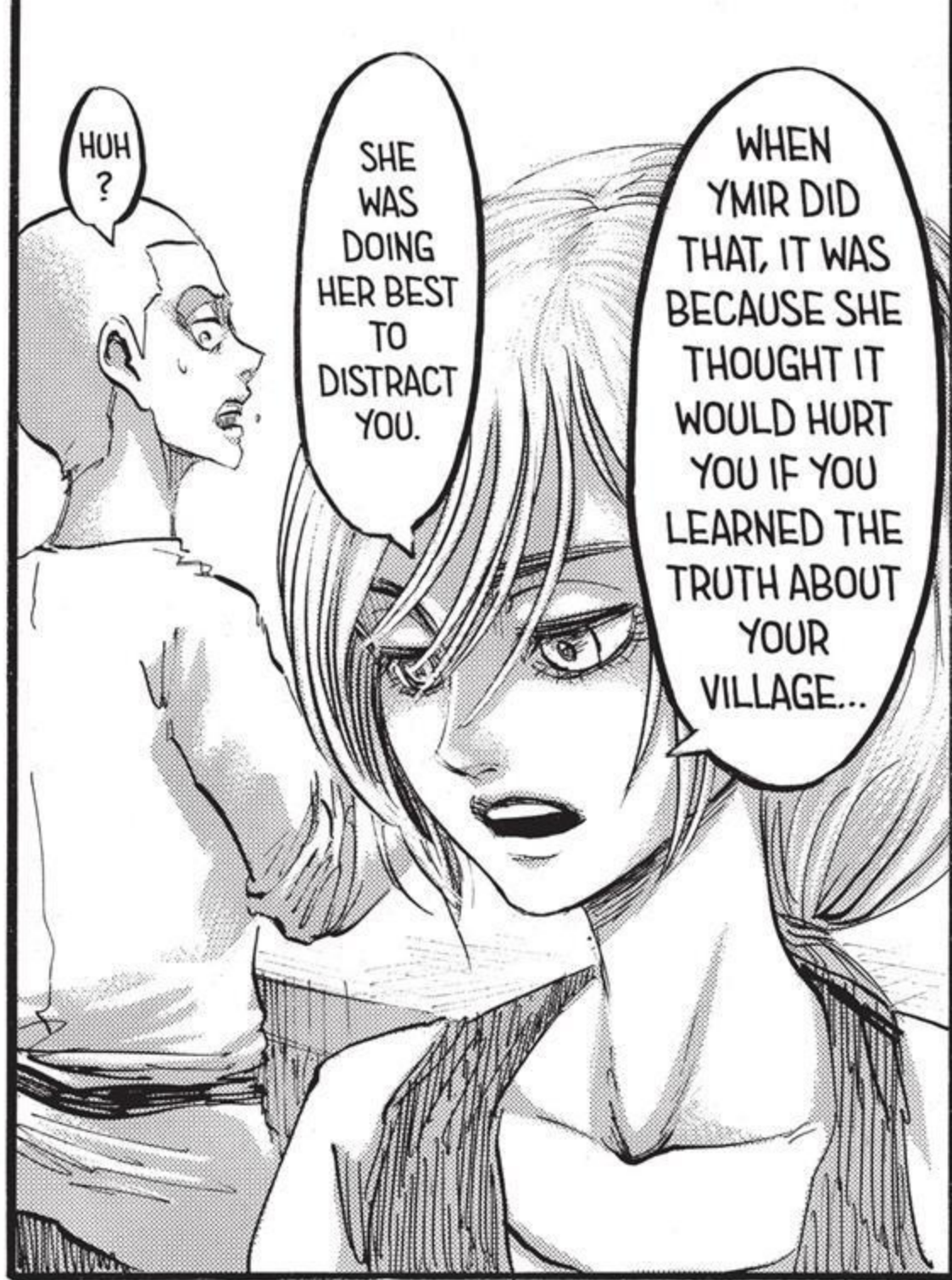
YEAH.



NO.

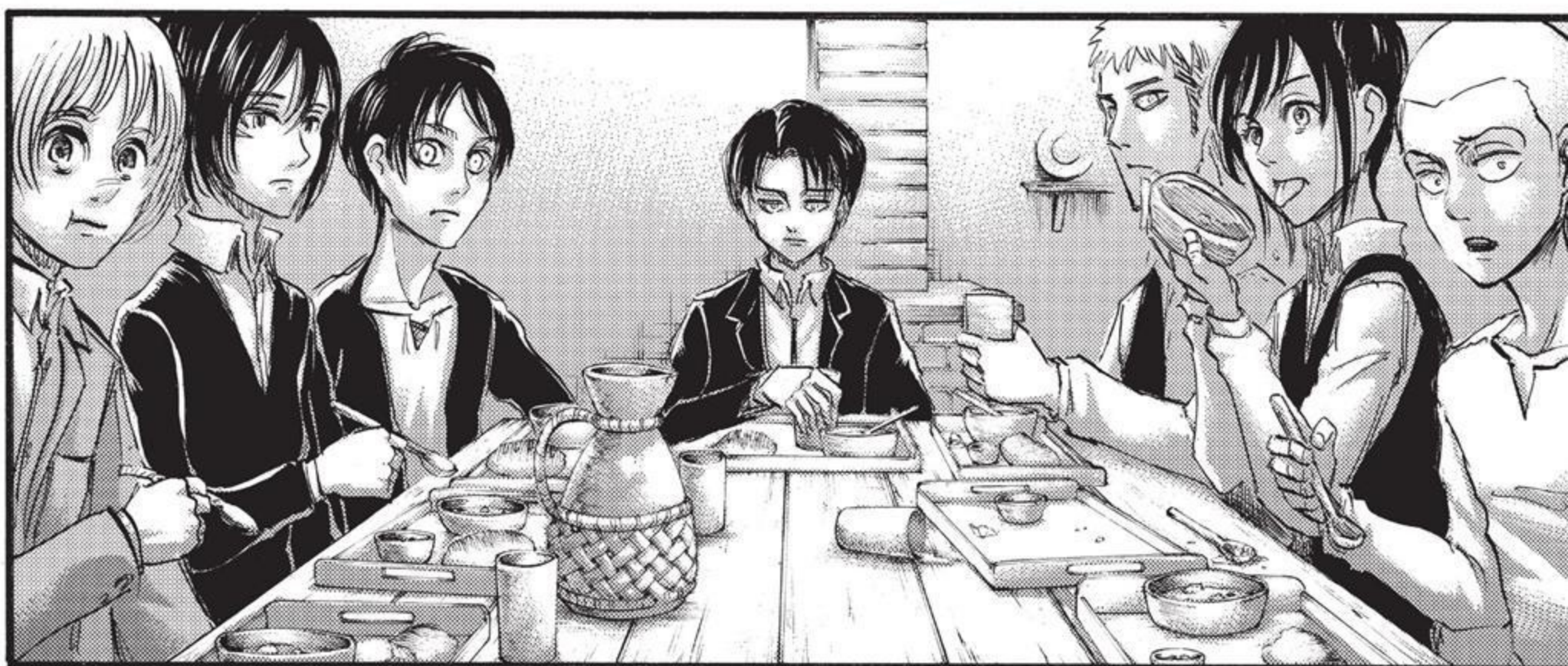
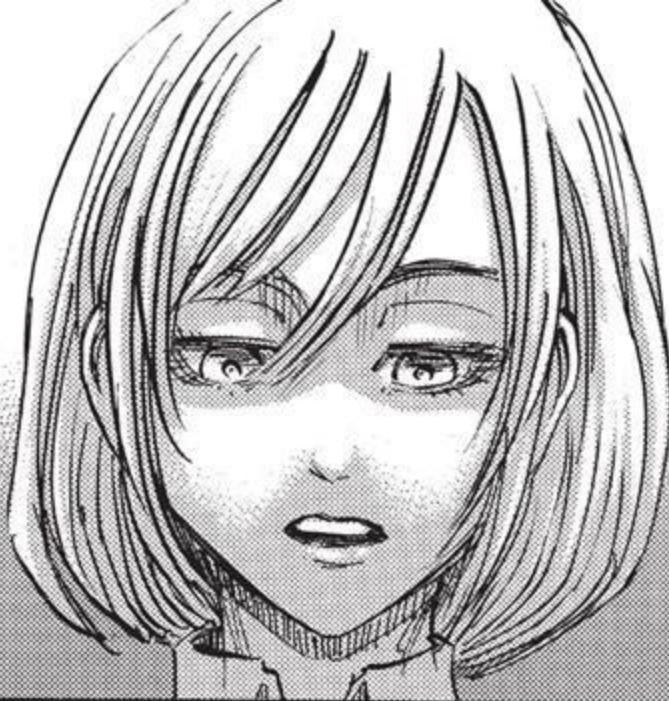
I
NEVER
IMAGINED
SHE COULD
BE SO
CRUEL...

AND WHAT
ABOUT
YMIR? SHE
MADE FUN
OF ME WHEN
SHE KNEW
EXACTLY
WHAT WAS
GOING
ON.

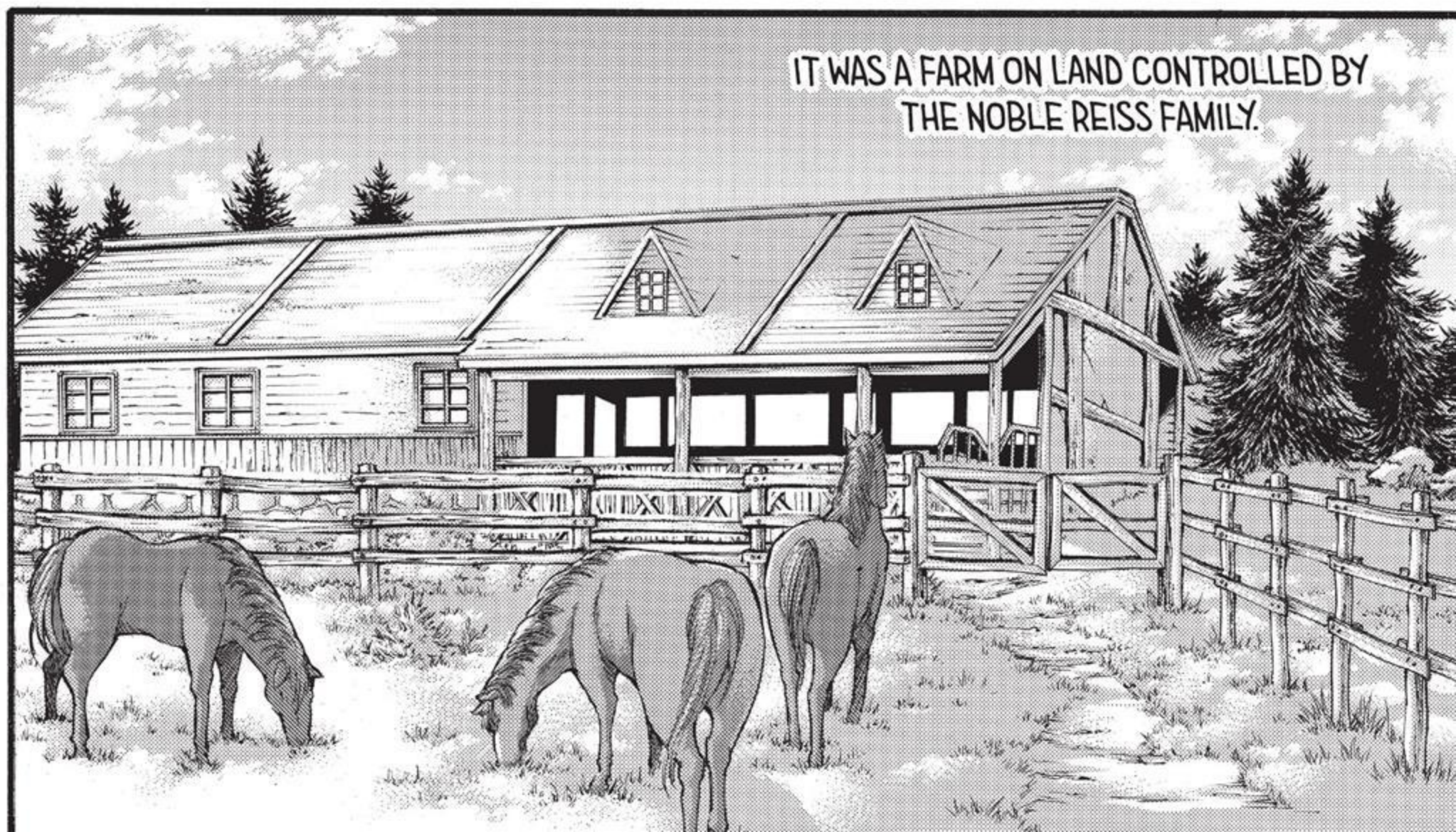


I WAS BORN
ON A SMALL
FARM IN THE
NORTH PART OF
WALL SHEENA.

AND EVER SINCE
HISTORIA TOLD US
ABOUT HER
UPBRINGING...



IT WAS A FARM ON LAND CONTROLLED BY
THE NOBLE REISS FAMILY.



I NEVER SAW HER DOING HOUSEWORK.



MY MOTHER WAS ALWAYS READING BOOKS.



AS FAR BACK AS I CAN REMEMBER, I WAS ALWAYS HELPING OUT ON THE FARM.



SHE WAS A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN.



SHE SEEMED TO HAVE SOME OTHER SOURCE OF INCOME BESIDES THE FAMILY BUSINESS.



WHEN NIGHT CAME, SHE WOULD DRESS UP IN SHOWY CLOTHES AND SOMEONE WOULD COME IN A CARRIAGE TO TAKE HER TO TOWN.



AND WHEN I STARTED TO IMITATE MY MOTHER BY READING BOOKS...

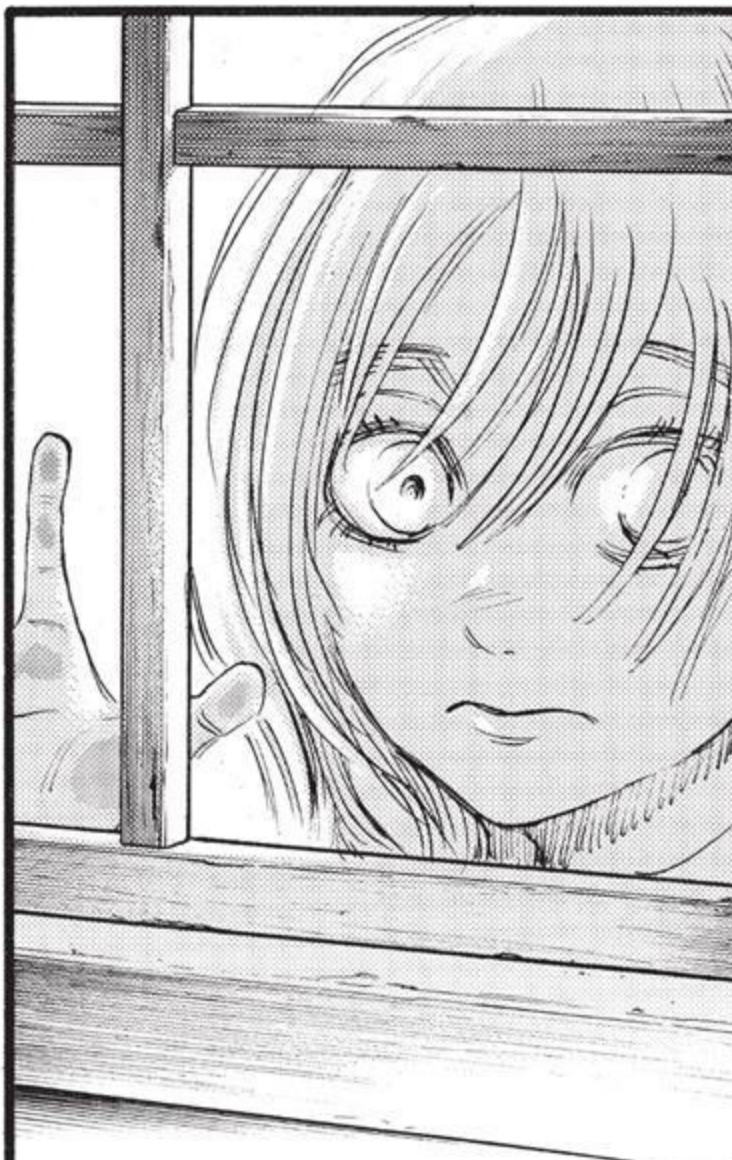


BUT THEN I LEARNED TO READ AND WRITE.

...I LEARNED THAT I WAS VERY MUCH ALONE.



THAT WAS JUST NORMAL LIFE FOR ME.

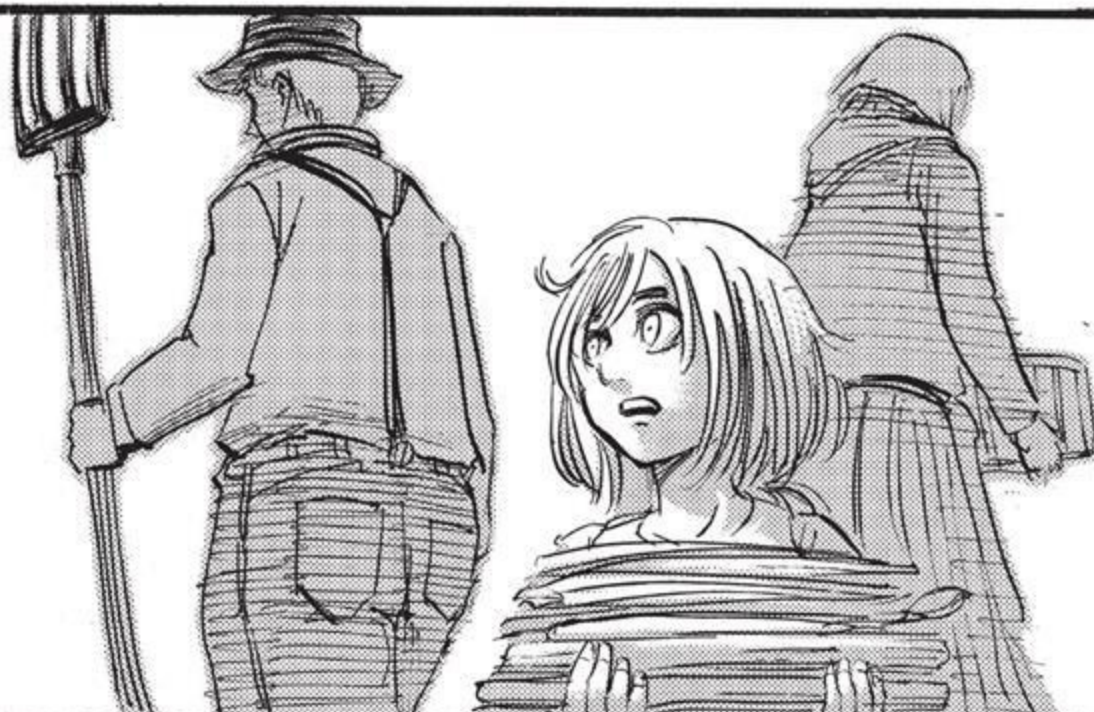


IN MY BOOKS,
THEY WOULD
SPEAK TO
THEM, HOLD
THEM, SCOLD
THEM...



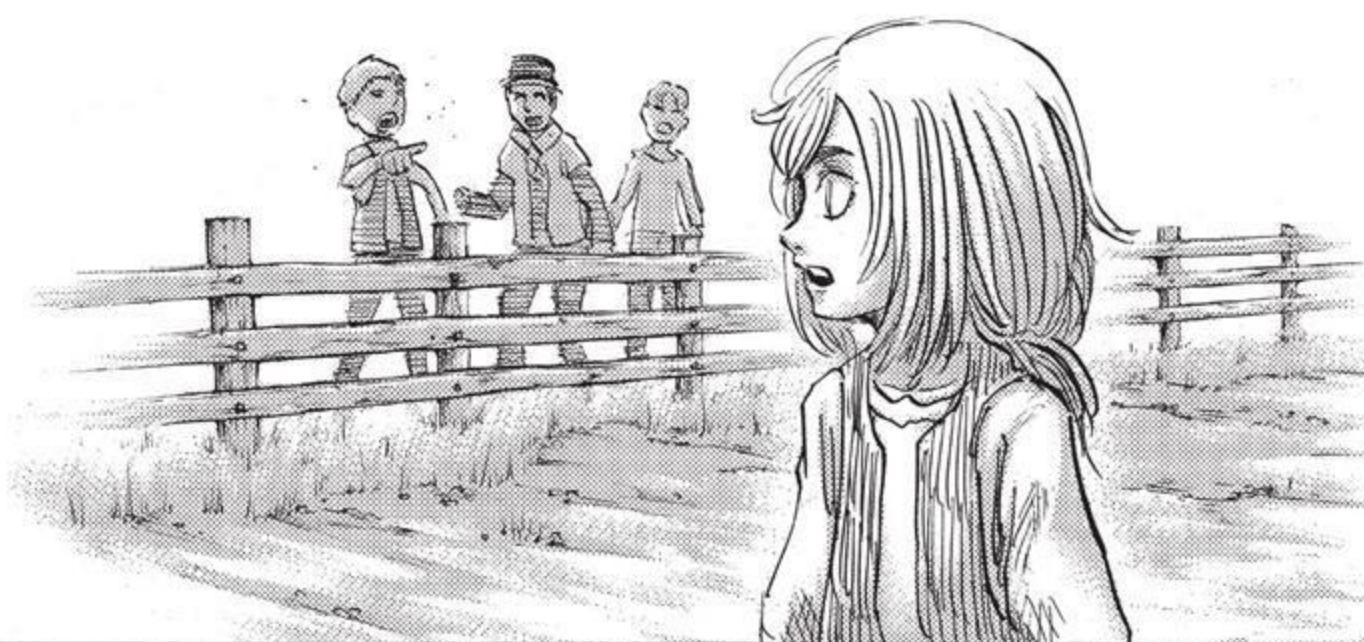
IN ALL THE
BOOKS I READ...
MOTHERS
SHOWED
INTEREST IN
THEIR
CHILDREN.

MY GRANDPARENTS
WOULD SPEAK TO
ME WHEN THEY
TAUGHT ME HOW TO
WORK, BUT I HAD
NEVER SPOKEN TO
MY MOTHER.



I HAD NEVER
EXPERIENCED
ANY OF THOSE
THINGS.

AND THAT
THEY'D
PLAY WITH
OTHER
KIDS THEIR
AGE.



I ALSO
NOTICED
THAT THE
OTHER
CHILDREN
COULD
WALK
AROUND
FREELY,

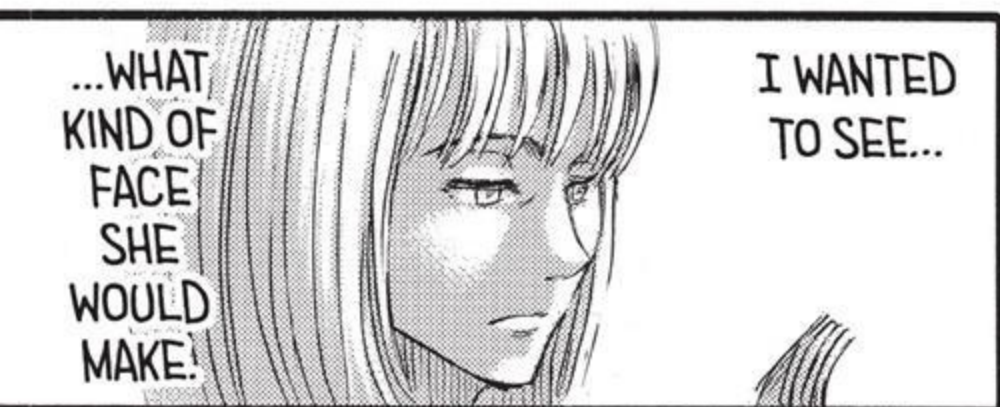
NEEDLESS
TO SAY, I
NEVER
LEFT THE
FARM.



TO ME,
OTHER
CHILDREN
WERE
DANGEROUS.
THEY'D
THROW
ROCKS AT
ME.

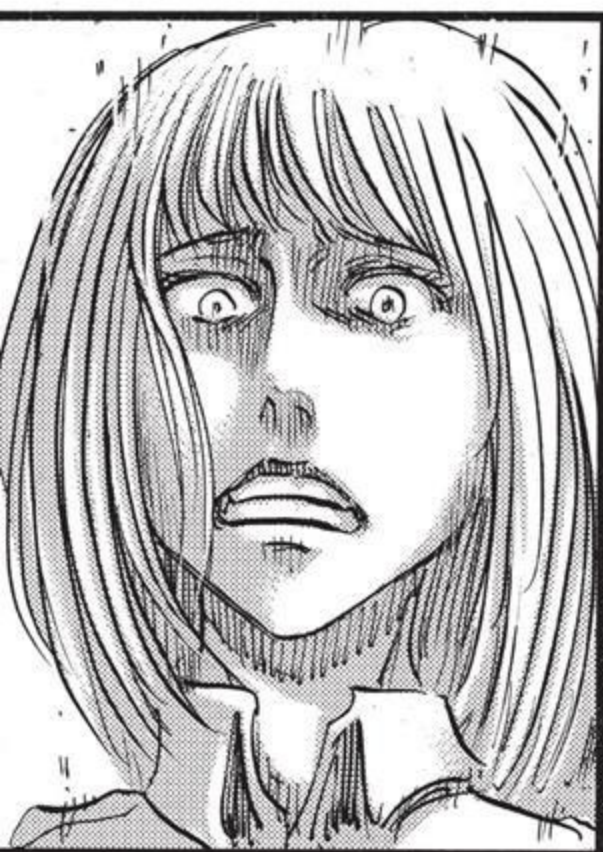


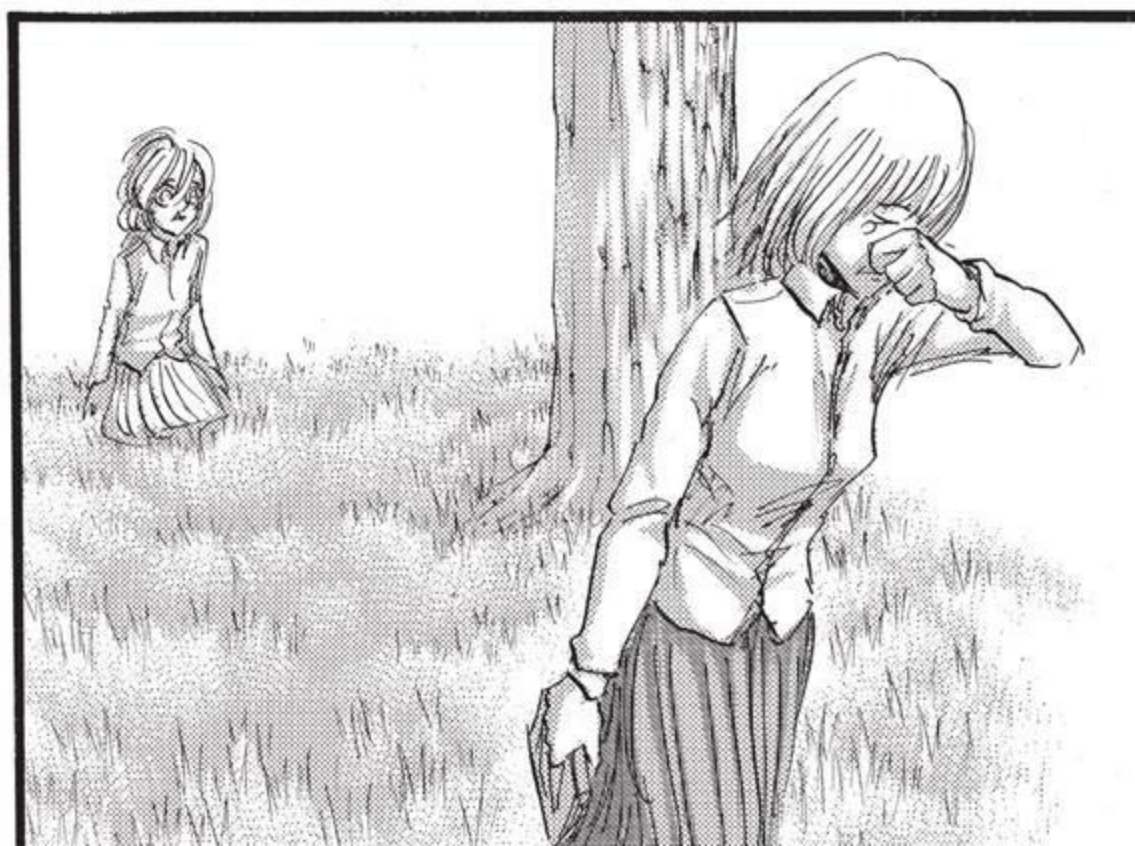
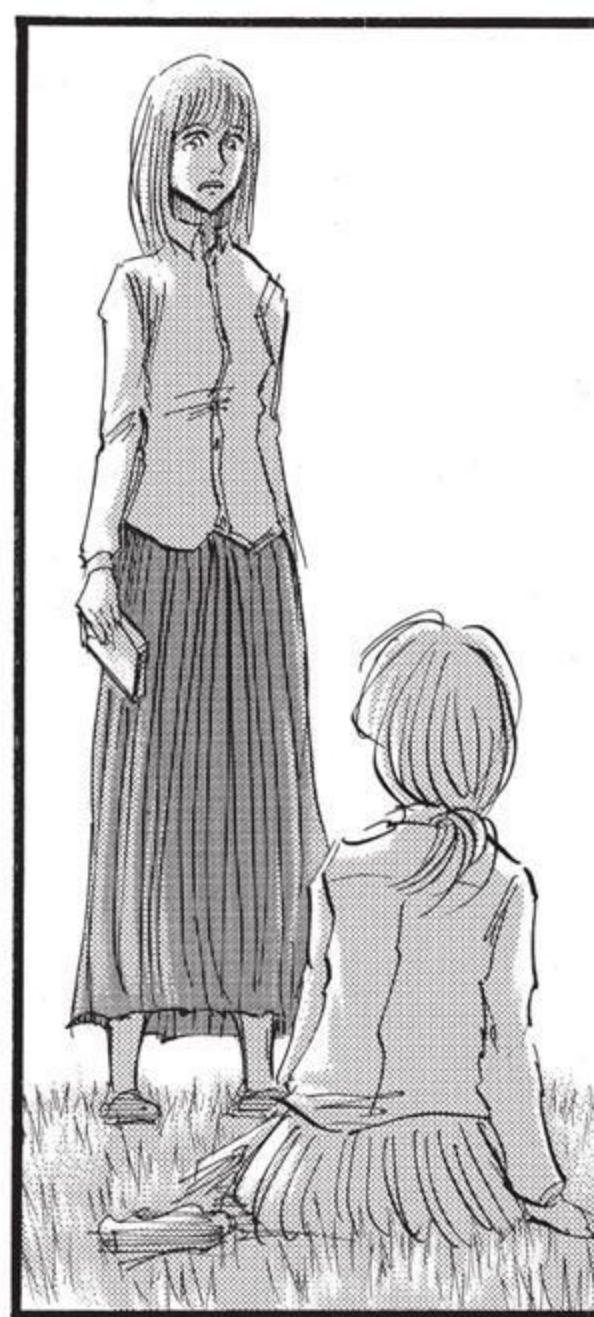
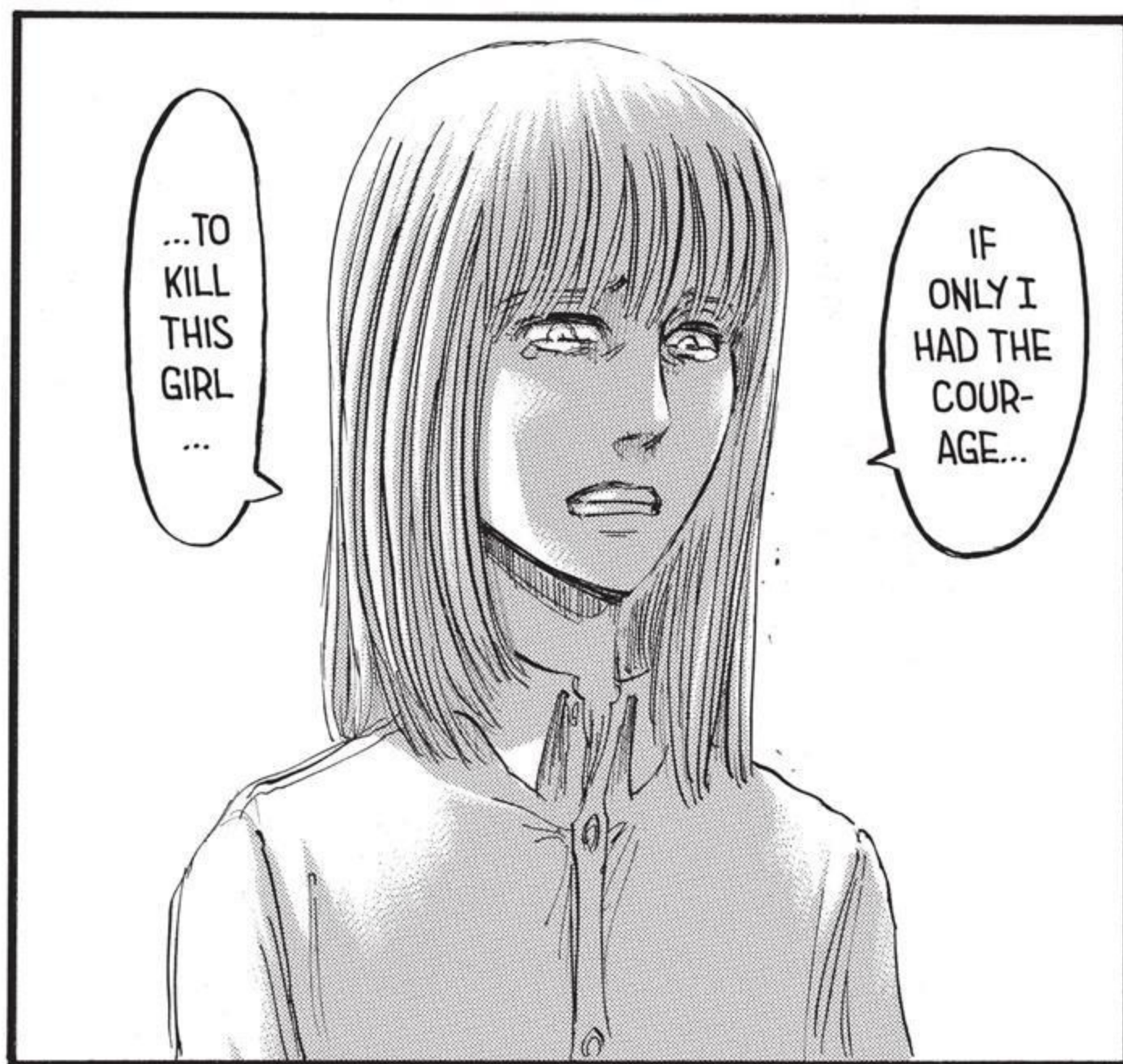
ONE DAY, OUT
OF CURIOSITY,
I DECIDED TO
TRY HUGGING
MY MOTHER.



...WHAT
KIND OF
FACE
SHE
WOULD
MAKE!

I WANTED
TO SEE...





...THE PEOPLE
WHO WORKED ON
THE FARM, THE
PEOPLE WHO
LIVED ON THE
LAND...
EVERYONE...

EVENTUALLY, I REALIZED.
MY GRANDFATHER, MY
GRANDMOTHER...



AFTER THAT,
MY MOTHER
LEFT THE
HOUSE AND
STARTED
LIVING
SOMEWHERE
ELSE.

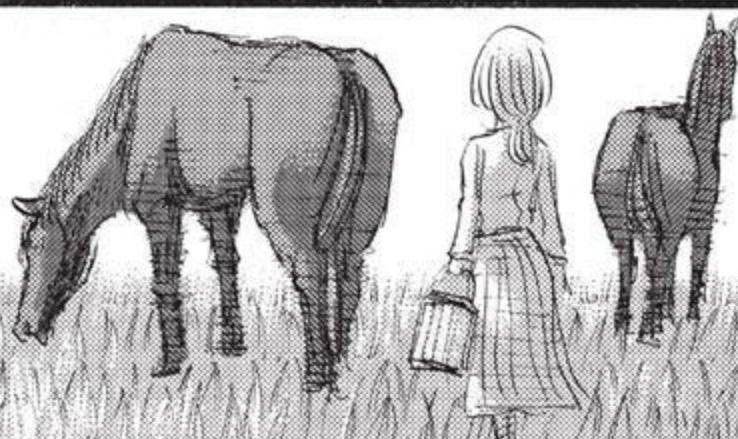


...IF I WASN'T
ALIVE.



THEY WOULD
ALL BE
HAPPIER...

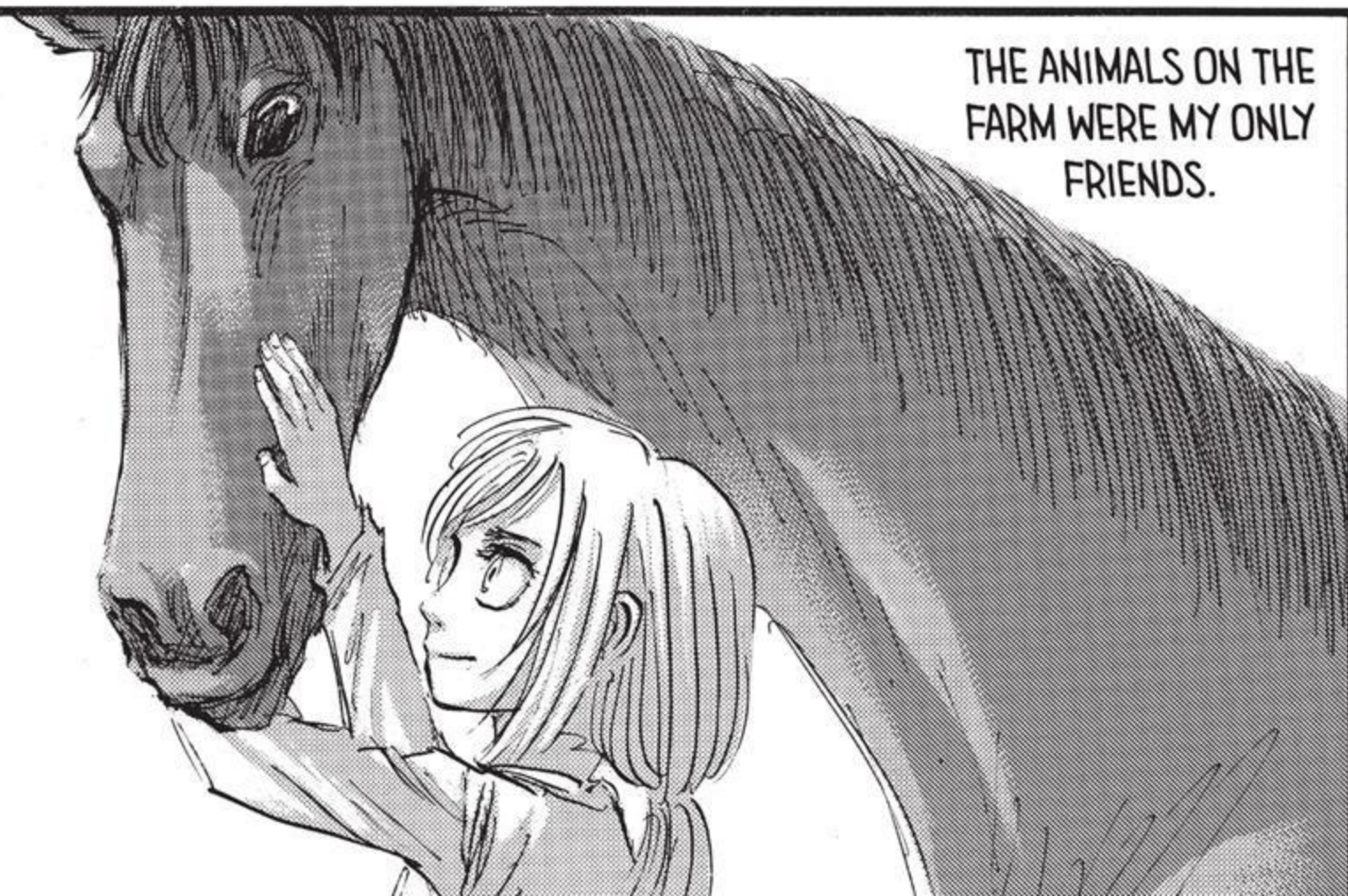
THERE WAS NO ONE
I COULD ASK. THE
FARM WAS MY
WHOLE WORLD.



WHY WERE
THINGS THIS
WAY?

WHAT
HAD I
DONE?

MOST OF MY
DAYS WERE
SPENT DOING
FARM WORK,
BUT THE WORK
HELPED ME
FORGET
ABOUT MY
LONELINESS.



THE ANIMALS ON THE
FARM WERE MY ONLY
FRIENDS.

WHEN WALL
MARIA FELL...

AND THEN, A FEW NIGHTS AFTER
THAT DAY FIVE YEARS AGO...

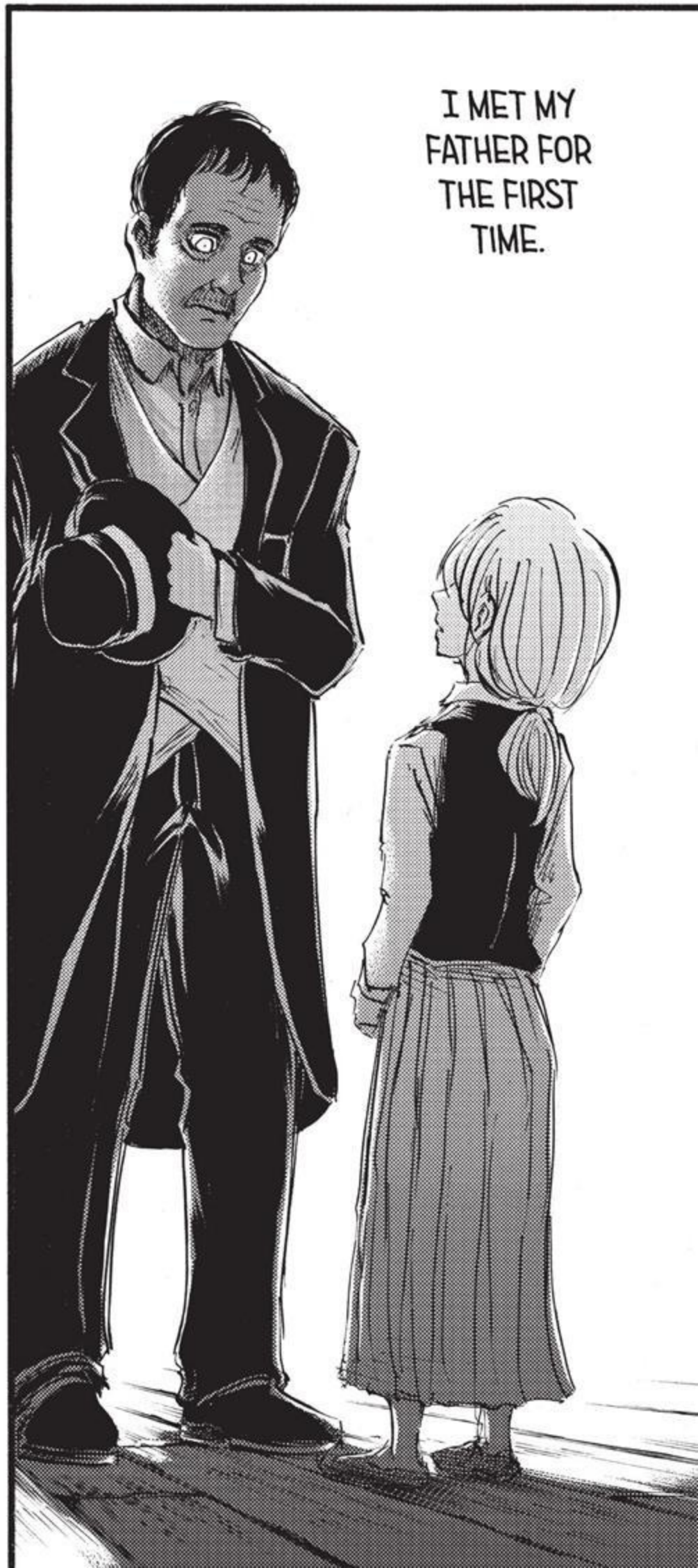


MY
NAME IS
ROD REISS.
...I'M YOUR
FATHER.

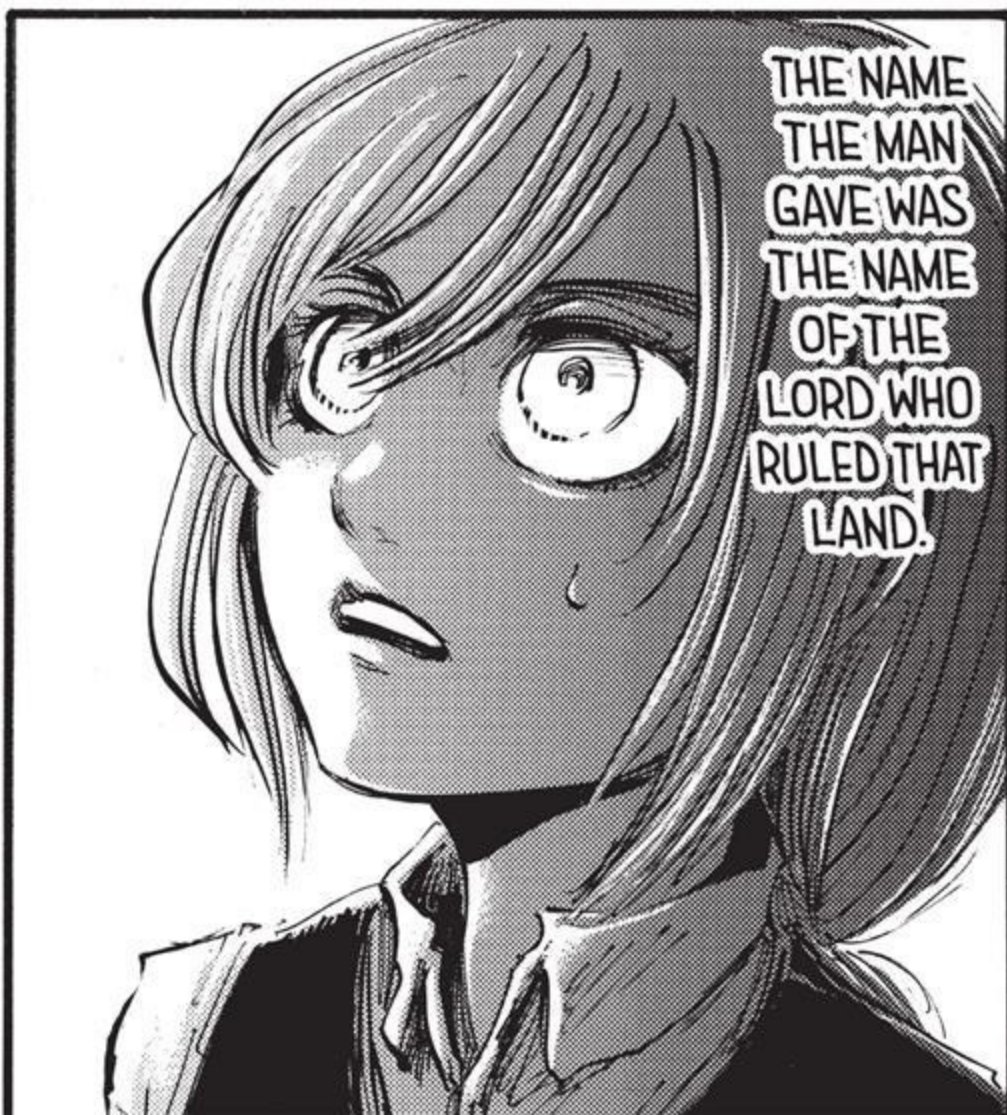
HELLO,
HISTORIA.



I MET MY
FATHER FOR
THE FIRST
TIME.



THE NAME
THE MAN
GAVE WAS
THE NAME
OF THE
LORD WHO
RULED THAT
LAND.





HISTORIA...
YOU'RE
GOING TO
LIVE WITH
ME FROM
NOW ON.

BUT SHE
SEEMED
TERRIFIED.

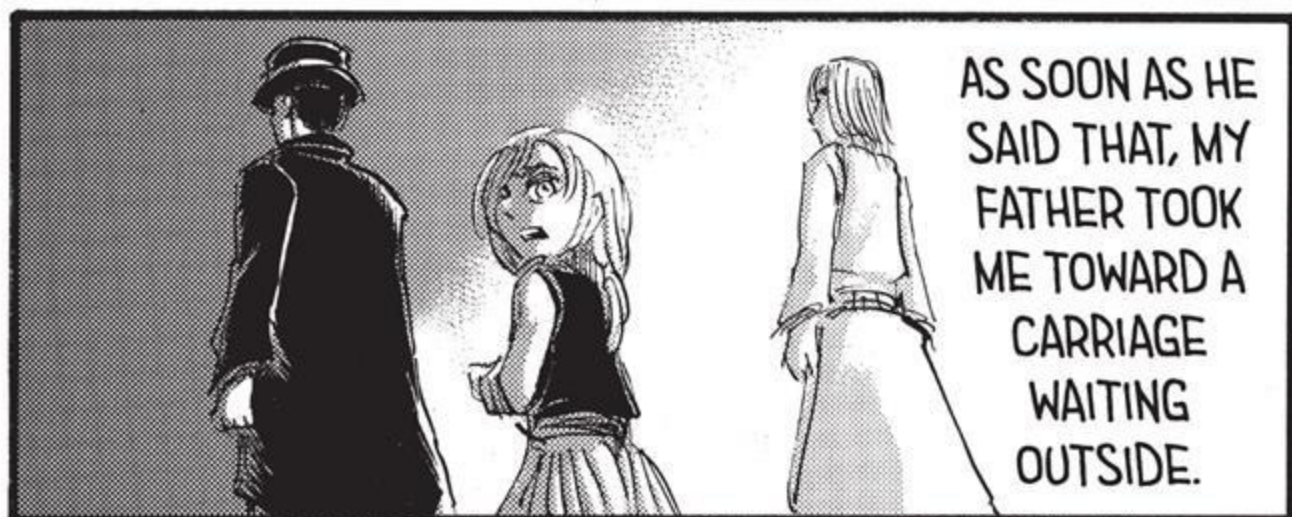


MY
MOTHER,
WHOM I
HADN'T
SEEN IN
YEARS,
WAS
ALSO
THERE.



AA
AA
HH
HH!!

AND
THEN—



AS SOON AS HE
SAID THAT, MY
FATHER TOOK
ME TOWARD A
CARRIAGE
WAITING
OUTSIDE.



AND I NOTICED
THAT WE WERE
SURROUNDED
BY MEN.

MY MOTHER
SHRIEKED—

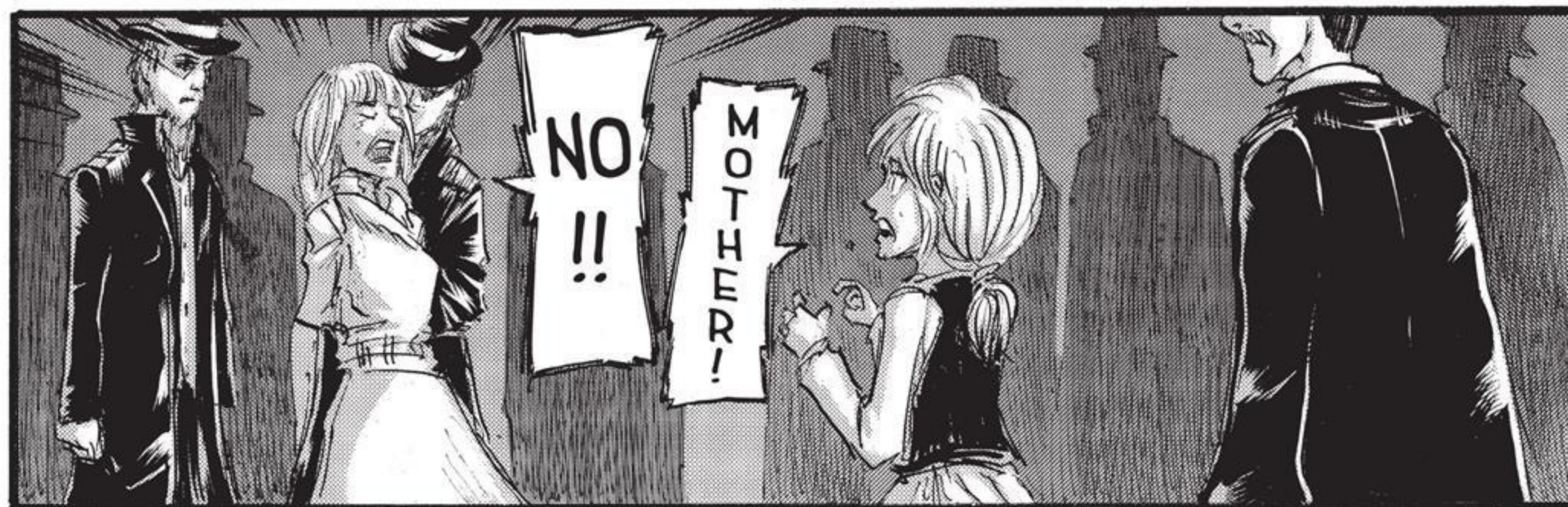


ARE YOU
FEELING
UNEASY
BECAUSE WALL
MARIA HAS
FALLEN...?

EEEEHH

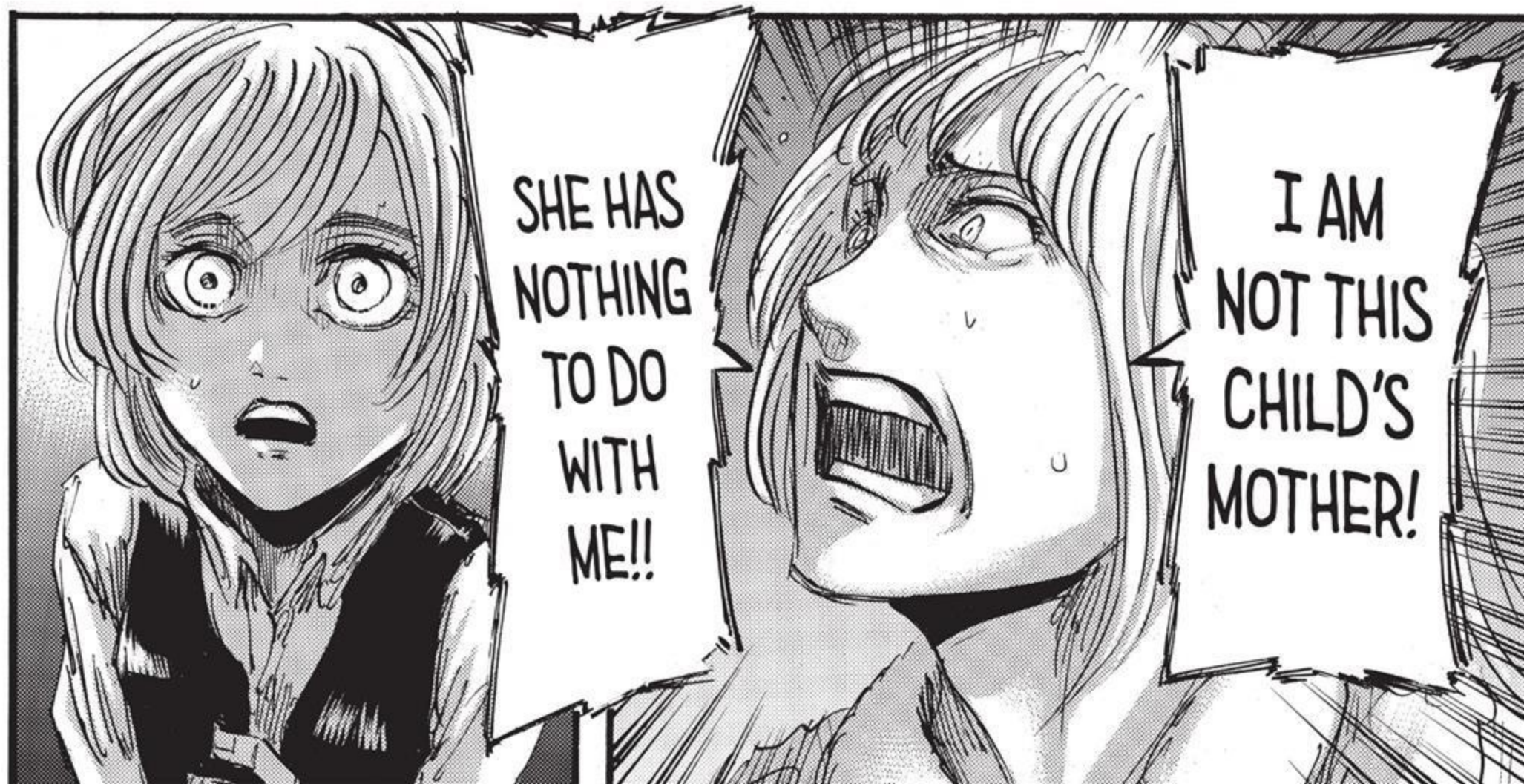


MY LORD
REISS, WE
MUST ASK
YOU NOT
TO ACT SO
RASHLY.



NO
!!

MOTHER!



SHE HAS
NOTHING
TO DO
WITH
ME!!

I AM
NOT THIS
CHILD'S
MOTHER!

ARE
BOTH THIS
WOMAN... AND
THIS CHILD
UNRELATED
TO YOU?



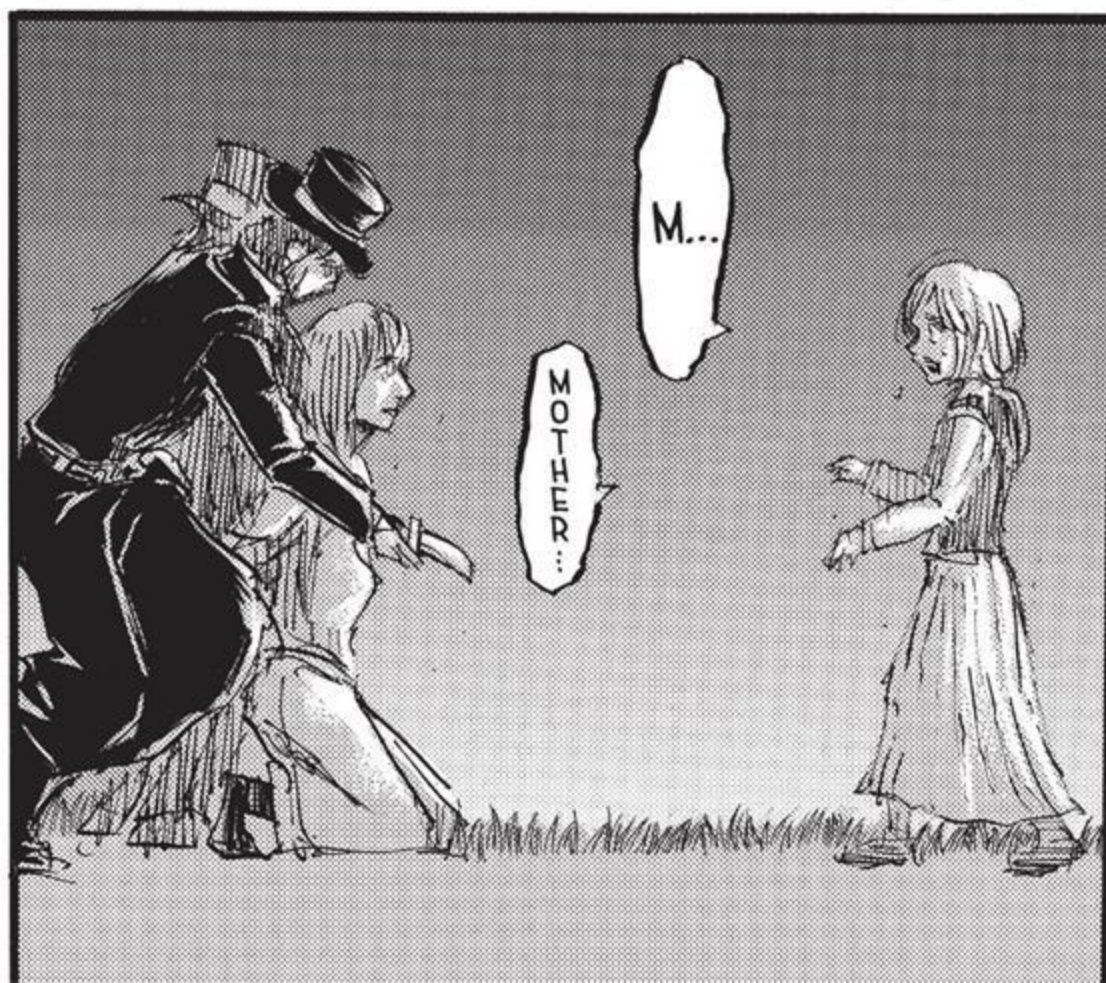
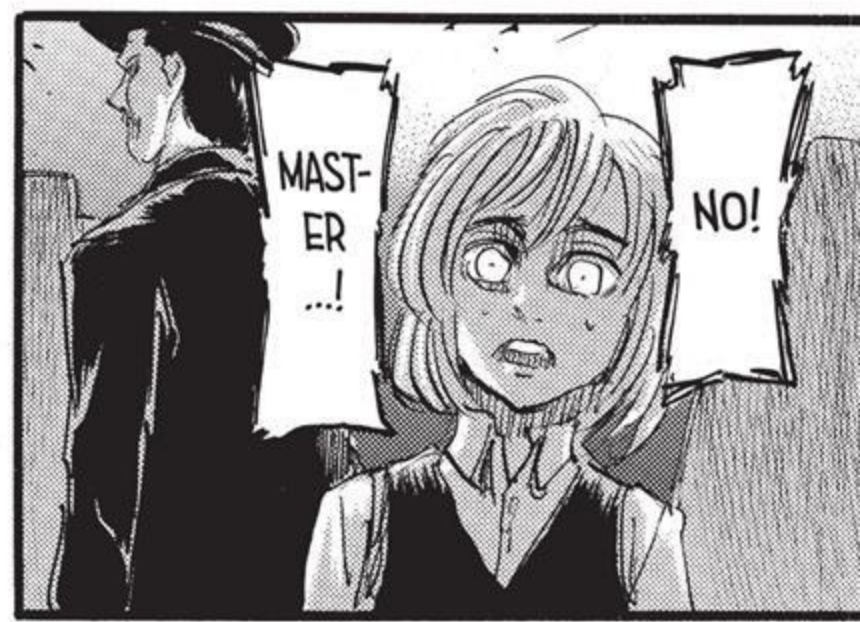
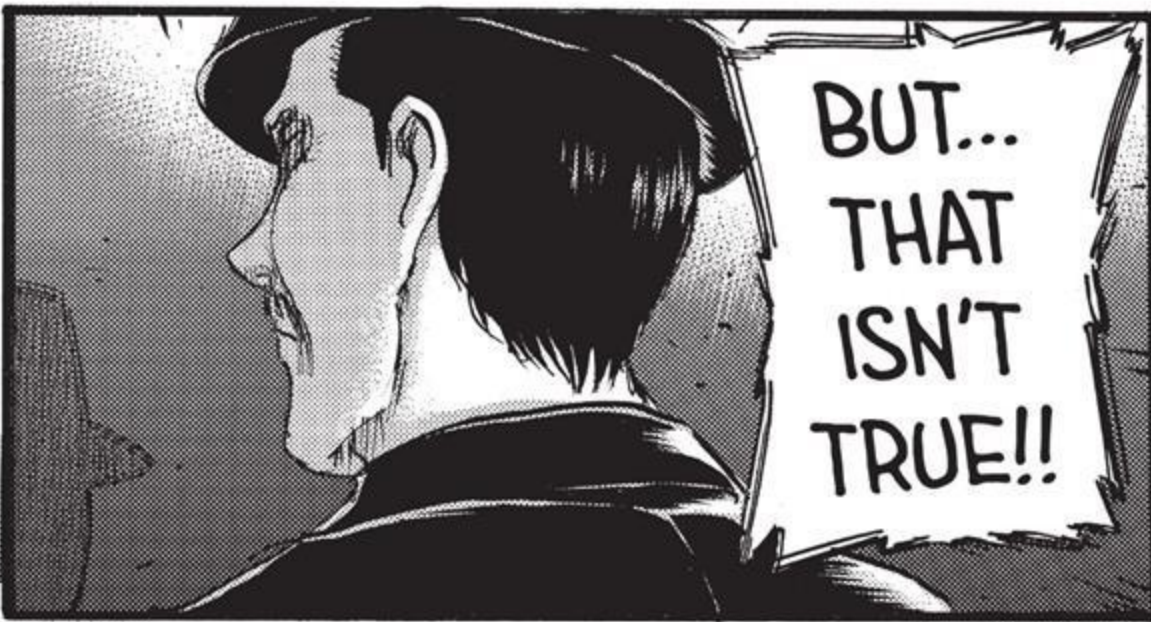
AHA...
IS THIS
TRUE,
LORD
REISS?

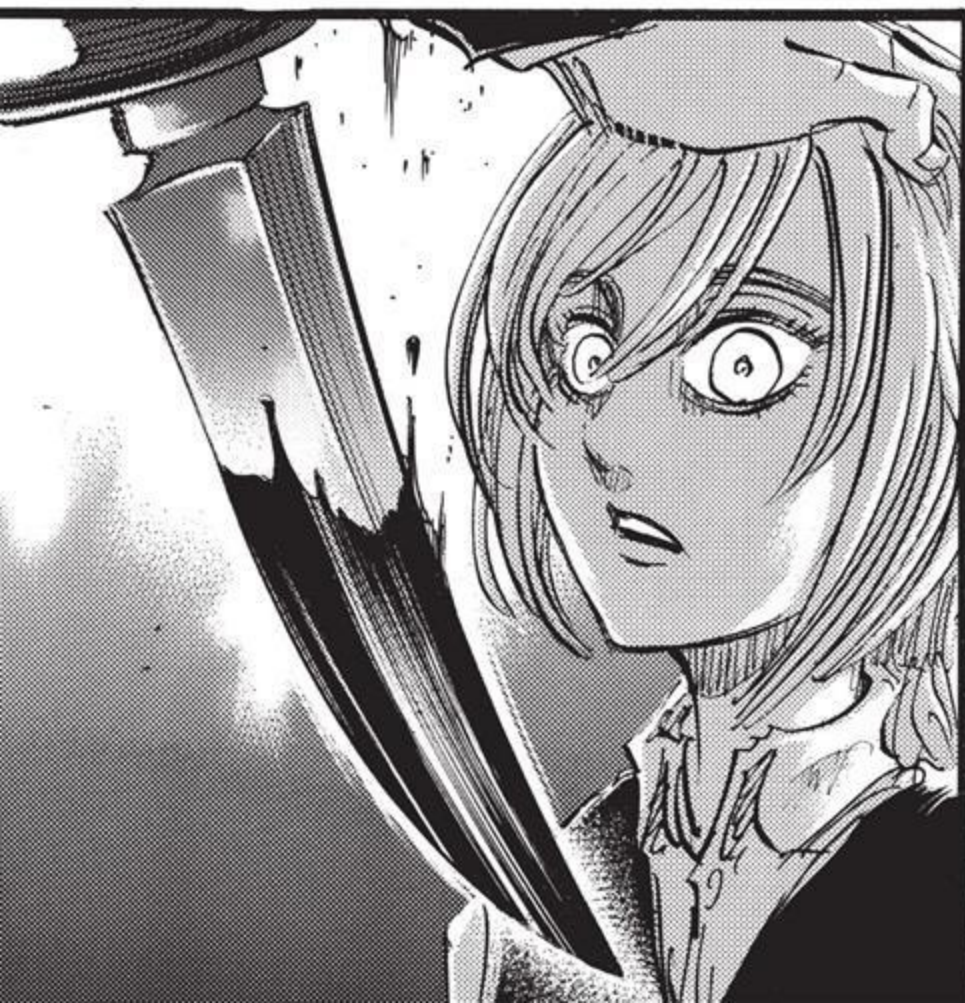
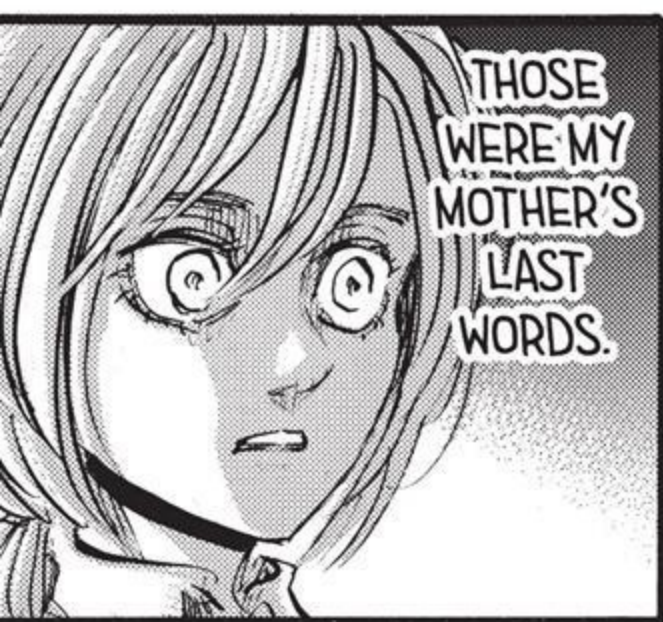


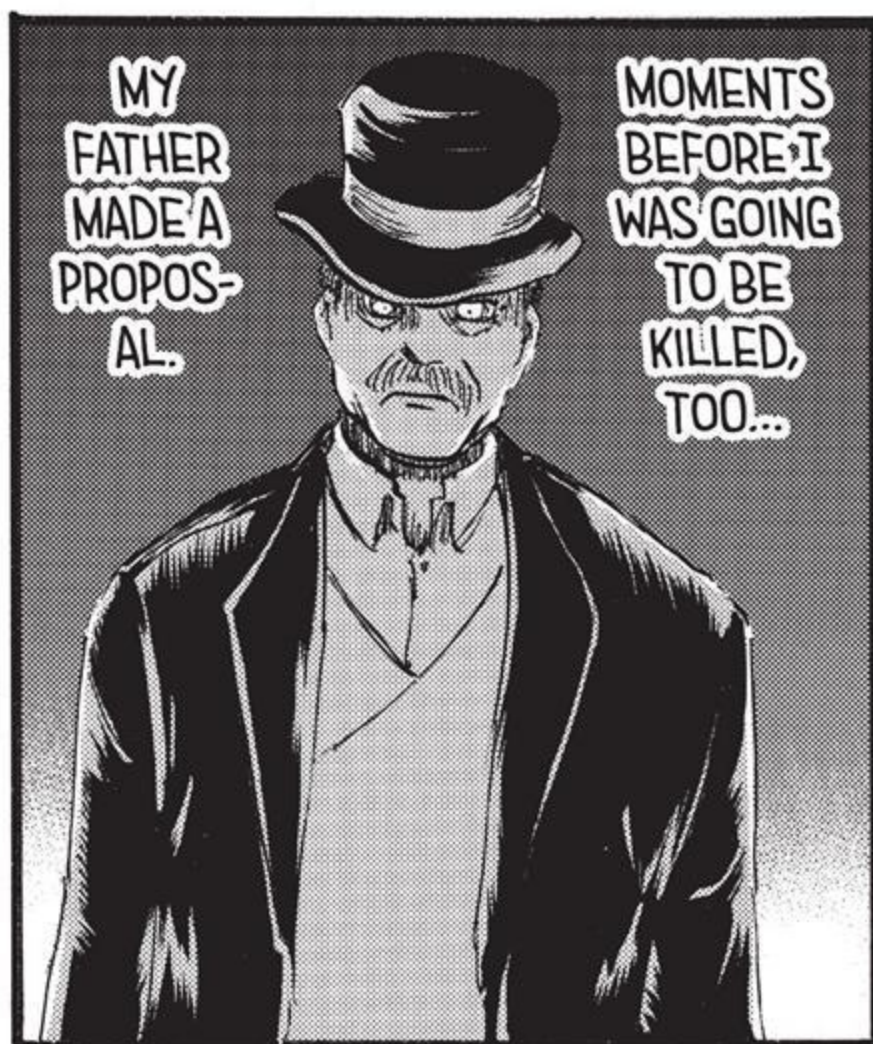
NEITHER
OF THEM ARE
RELATED TO
ME.

SIGH
...

VERY
WELL...







MY
FATHER
MADE A
PROPOS-
AL.

MOMENTS
BEFORE I
WAS GOING
TO BE
KILLED,
TOO...



WAIT.



...THEY'D LET
ME GO FREE.

YOUR
NAME
...

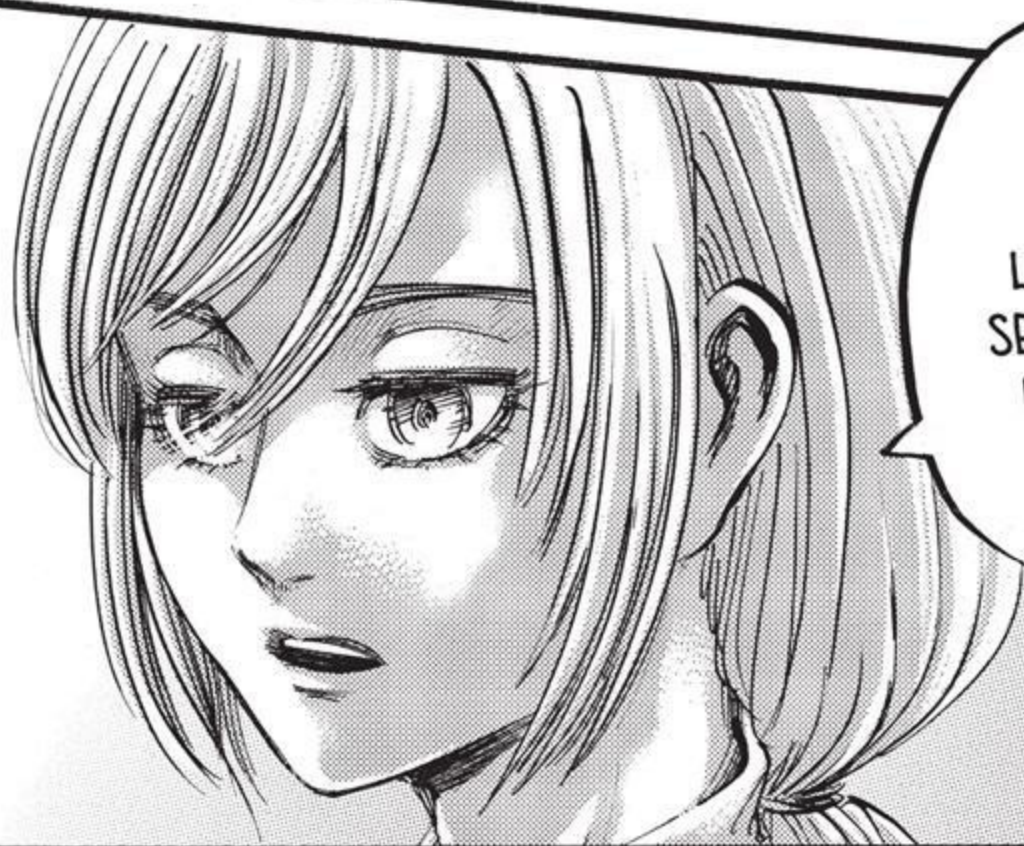
IF I LIVED A
QUIET LIFE
SOMEWHERE
FAR AWAY...



...IS
KRISTA
LENZ.

...ENTERED
THE
TRAINING
CORPS
WHEN I
TURNED
TWELVE...

AFTER
THAT, I
LIVED IN A
SETTLEMENT
FOR TWO
YEARS...



...THEN
MET
ALL OF
YOU.



ATTACK on TITAN